

A PUBLIC APPEAL FOR FUNDS
BY THE
ETHICAL LECTURERS' FUND COMMITTEE,

CONSISTING OF

LESLIE STEPHEN, Chairman and Hon. Treasurer, 22, Hyde Park Gate, London, S.W.
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This appeal for funds arises from a conviction on our part that a great national good might be done by a thorough teaching and preaching of moral principles among the people, and by the founding of Ethical Societies for that purpose throughout the country.

It would be the primary aim of such Societies to contribute to the diffusion of a stronger spirit of justice and a keener sense of the responsibilities—political, social, and domestic—inherent upon every member of the community.

The teaching and preaching of the vital relations of morality to the whole of life, and the founding of societies for this end, can be entrusted only to men and women of more than average ability, of thorough education, and of well-tried character. If such teachers and preachers can be secured, it will in most cases be natural and desirable that all their time and energy should be absorbed in this work. They must, therefore, be paid like other teachers. We now appeal to the public for funds, from which we could assign small but adequate salaries to such applicants as, in our judgment, were fitted for the work.

As to the intellectual equipment of candidates, we should require as the minimum of education a University honours degree (or its equivalent), but consider it desirable that they should also have pursued a three years' course of post-graduate study (or its equivalent), as it seems to us important that the educational standard of Ethical lecturers should be kept as high as possible, not only in order to draw the men of best intellect and command the respect of the public to whom we appeal for financial support, but also because of the peculiar nature of the task to be assigned to them. In either case it would be desirable that such candidates for the first three years be counted as probationers, and not as permanently appointed lecturers.

Besides those who had attained the standard which we have mentioned, however, we should consider the application of persons who showed the requisite ability, but whose education has not yet reached the minimum demanded. Such applicants, if approved, would be required to pursue their studies further, and would receive from us a scholarship rather than a lectureship.

Besides having attained to a standard of intellectual equipment, it would be necessary for applicants to give evidence also of moral fitness and of a general practical capacity for the work.

Candidates would not be required to profess any belief or disbelief in any theological or philosophical creed. They would equally undertake that their ethical teaching should not be based upon an acceptance or rejection of any such creed by their hearers. No candidate would be required to profess himself a Socialist or an Individualist, but he would be understood to accept the principle that all social improvement is essentially dependent upon the development of a higher moral standard of character.

Candidates would be expected to agree with the General Aims of the Union of Ethical Societies which are stated in its Constitution as follows:—

I.—By purely natural and human means to assist individual and social efforts after right living.

II.—To free the current idea of what is right from all that is merely traditional or self-contradictory, and thus to widen and perfect it.

III.—To assist in constructing a theory or science of Right, which, starting with the reality and validity of moral distinctions, shall explain their mental and social origin, and connect them in a logical system of thought.

We hope that readers who approve the enterprise we here undertake will not delay in responding to our appeal. Not only is there an unconscious need for Ethical teaching and Ethical Societies, but there is already a large and growing demand. Societies existing in various parts of the country, under various names, complain that they cannot find lecturers who will present the Ethical aspects of social and individual life, and of literature, science, politics, and religion. If it be said that these Societies should themselves provide the means of payment for their own lecturers, we agree, but desire to point out that few of them are in a position to command the undivided services of such lecturers, and that, though we hope much will be done by combination, there will still be need of a central fund such as is suggested above, and the guarantee which a grant from it will give to the public of the suitability of lecturers.

We request contributors, if possible, to make their subscriptions annual, as our desire would be, in most cases, to assign salaries for terms of several years.

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SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1899.

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LITERATURE

The Life of William Morris. By J. W. Mackail. 2 vols. (Longmans & Co.)

No single writer could hope to produce an adequate record of the life of the extraordinary genius—"poet, artist, manufacturer, and Socialist, author of '*The Earthly Paradise*'"—William Morris. He enlarged over and over again the limits of English verse; in '*The House of the Wolfings*' he invented a form of literary art so novel that fresh canons of criticism had to be formulated and applied to it; he was a main factor in the revolt of public taste from the tasteless profusion of the early Victorian epoch; he proved that goods may still be produced as well as wares. Rarely did he master a subject without enlarging its borders, and his relaxation was found only in some new development of the restless energy which was his distinguishing characteristic. But of what was in one man's power to do Mr. Mackail has left little undone.

William Morris was born at Walthamstow on March 24th, 1834. His father was a prosperous City man of Welsh descent; his mother was one of the Sheltons, a family which, in the female line, was descended from the famous Throckmorton stock. He entered Marlborough in 1848, and Exeter College, Oxford, in June, 1852. Intending at first to take Orders, he abandoned this ambition for architecture, and joined Street's office in January, 1856. In August of the same year Street removed to London, and Morris came up with him. The next three years were the *Wanderjahre* of his life, divided between poetry, painting, and travelling. Part of 1857–8 was spent on the decoration of the Oxford Union; but in 1859 he married, and from that time forward London was the centre of his activity. His marriage led, in due course, to the foundation of the firm of Morris, Marshall, Faulkner & Co. (April, 1861). The succeeding years were amongst the busiest of his life, yet in them he found time to write not only '*The Life and Death of Jason*' and '*The Earthly Paradise*', but a vast quantity of hitherto unpublished verse. We need not catalogue his works from this time

forward; a reference to our columns will show that for thirty years we have been foremost in admiring his wonderful genius.

As time went on his passion for architecture led him to take a prominent part in the endeavour to stay the "restoring" mania of this century. The *Athenæum* had always set its face steadily against "those acts of barbarism which the modern architect, parson, and squire call restoration," and in March, 1877, Morris wrote to it a letter headed "Society for the Preservation of Ancient Monuments," suggesting the formation of an association for that purpose. In April of the same year we chronicled the first meeting of the Society, to which Morris acted as secretary. The list of original members included Carlyle, Sir E. Poynter, Burne-Jones, Calderon, Mr. Stopford Brooke, Mr. Sidney Colvin, Mr. Leonard Courtney, and Mr. Philip Webb. Mr. Mackail tells the story of how Carlyle was induced to join, partly out of opposition to Sir James Stephen, and partly out of admiration for Wren's churches. Morris's work on the "*Anti-Scape*," as its friends call the Society, had the effect of bringing him into a position which had the most important results on his future activities.

The visits to Iceland in 1871–3, the diary of which furnishes forth one of Mr. Mackail's chapters, are of prime importance in the history of Morris's literary art. The chapter will, we fear, be found dull by the general reader, and should, indeed, have been broken up by some of the anecdotes the poet used to relate of his journey. It is printed here, we apprehend, because the diary will never be published. Traces of the impressions he obtained appear in almost every book he afterwards wrote. Nor can we but think that the existence of the wild, friendly, ungoverned communities with which Northern history had made him familiar contributed much to his future belief in the possibility of a communist life.

The history of the modern Socialist movement in England cannot be written for many years. It first began to show vitality within the Democratic Federation, an organization designed to link together the various working-men organizations into one body in favour of Radical (not Socialist, as Mr. Mackail puts it) aims. The elements on which it counted were the London Reform League, the scattered remnants of the International, the Radical trades unions, and finally, and most important, the section which followed Bronterre O'Brien, a section of the old Chartist party which had always taught that social rights, and not Socialism, should be the aim of the working men. Mr. Hyndman entered this organization with the intention of diverting it to Socialism; politicians of little experience saw in it a means of weakening London Liberalism. In a short time the organization was captured; a split took place, and the Democratic Federation became the "S.D.F." In January, 1883, Morris joined the Social Democratic Federation. Two years later he left it, unable to work with the doctrinaire section of the followers of Karl Marx, and founded the *Commonweal*, a journal which contains much of his writing for the next few years, notably '*John Ball*' and his pastoral Utopia '*News from Nowhere*'.

As the Socialist movement widened and grew shallow, fresh interests shared with it his activity. In 1889 '*The House of the Wolfings*' appeared. The judgment of the *Athenæum* of that date is still that of all competent critics. It is one of the most remarkable contributions to pure literature of our time. A mixture of prose and verse, the unmetered portion of the narrative is more poetical than the metrical. Its beauty lies in the texture of the prose style. Satisfied with its reception, he modified the form—which he never used again, though Mr. Mackail says that '*The Well at the World's End*' is written in it—and produced '*The Roots of the Mountains*', in his own opinion and that of many others his finest prose work. A series of romances followed which betrayed more and more the influence of Irish legend upon his imagination, an influence specially notable in '*The Water of the Wondrous Isles*'. It is not generally known, we believe, that Mr. Morris once began a story of Roman life, the other side of '*The House of the Wolfings*', but abandoned it in disgust.

Closely interwoven with his romance-writing was his last enterprise—the foundation of the Kelmscott Press. We have too often expressed our sense of the services this latter has rendered to typography to dwell upon them here. We can only repeat our warning against similar excesses in book decoration to those of Morris's feeble imitators in the past, who made the aesthete to be a byword among the Philistines. Morris died October 3rd, 1896, worn out by the labour of forty years, each of them crowded with the toil of half a dozen ordinary men.

Mr. Mackail's biography tells us all this, and more. It is one of the handsomest books of the sort we have seen. The illustrations by Mr. New are well drawn, and the photogravures by Messrs. Walker & Boutall of the portraits and of Morris's famous picture are models of what such work should be. And yet we are not quite satisfied with the book—we feel that it is written from a special point of view. We miss the names of lifelong friends of Morris; we find relations with others minimized to a vanishing point. Worse still, we have criticisms of Morris's poetry from the classical point of view—for a special example of which see Canon Dixon's remarks on the early poems on pp. 52 and 92 of vol. i. Of course, we have not '*The Willow and the Red Cliff*' before us; but to talk of reaching perfection at once in such immature work as the specimens Mr. Mackail furnishes is absurd. Better still, take Mr. Mackail's criticism of the epic '*Sigurd the Volsung*', with which should be read the notice of the same book in our columns of December, 1876; or, again, his criticism of '*Love is Enough*', with its emphasis of a metre casually used amongst twenty others in Middle English plays, as a conscious model of Morris's alliterative verse; or, lastly, to cite no more, his coupling Chaucer and *Piers Plowman*, and his want of appreciation of Chaucer's real place in literature.

But we have a further quarrel with Mr. Mackail. He may be unable to produce adequate criticism, but we expect at any rate from him English of a high standard,

all the more as slipshod and debatable phrasing has already become common in an age devoted to rapid scribbling. The first sentence of the book has a personal pronoun "he," of which the noun is to seek. And how does Mr. Mackail know that the greatest names are sooner or later overwhelmed in oblivion? And why does he write Gibbon-and-milk? And why does he tell us that an English "park abounded in wild birds and beasts"? What other kind of birds and what kind of wild beasts did he expect? And how can a loss be replaced (p. 53)? It may be repaired. And why "an old veteran"?—to quote no more. Let us hope that another edition will afford him an opportunity of revising these slips, excusable enough in a writer of whom less is expected.

In truth, Mr. Mackail has done a good piece of work, and brought forward sides of Morris's life too often ignored. It may, and ought to, be supplemented; it can never be superseded. Most of all do we thank him for the extracts from the Troy poems hitherto unprinted. If, as we learn from Mr. Mackail, there are six of these completed, we venture to represent to Mr. Morris's literary executors that it is their bounden duty to publish them. With the other short poems known to exist they would, we understand, amount to a volume.

Highways and Byways in Donegal and Antrim.
By Stephen Gwynn. With Illustrations by Hugh Thomson. (Macmillan & Co.)

DONEGAL is not an easy country to write of, for it has neither architecture nor other art, and its commerce seldom rises above the level of cottage industry. That it has had a full share in the making of Irish history is true, but that history is completely in the past, and must always have lacked grandeur, since it has disappeared, leaving no monument and no mark upon the world. The kings of Tyrone and Tyrconnel were brave and warlike, but they did little for their country, and the one really great man of their blood, Columba, was destined to make history in Scotland, not at home. Why it has come to pass that the Irish saints or missionaries, who built large churches as far east as Ratisbon, have left so little monument at home, we know not; probably the internecine petty warfare not only destroyed what was done, but greatly deterred from doing, and the best men, wearying of a constant strife that was both ignoble and un-Christian, followed the example of Columba and severed all earthly ties by voluntary exile. But for whatever reason, we look in vain for an Arthur, an Alfred, a William, a Henry, an Edward. Donegal has its separate history until after the death of Elizabeth, but we cannot compare it with the contemporaneous history of any state of Western Europe. For it is useless to claim for the Irish a high place in science, arts, or letters. The State Papers of the period show that their leaders were not lacking in shrewd sense, and that they possessed a quick wit and great command of language; several of them, indeed, were writers of admirable letters, but the motive of these letters was diplomatic, never literary; and the most enlightened chieftain awarded no encouragement whatever to the

arts. Irish people often claim for their race an extreme sensibility to beauty, but history does not support that claim; for though at an early period the art of the goldsmith and the illuminator was encouraged in the monasteries, these arts declined with the loss of the temporal power by the clergy, and the chiefs were never ambitious in the building of churches, castles, or tombs, nor have the Irish ladies left a legacy of artistic needlework such as that bequeathed by their sisters of England, France, Spain, Italy, Germany, or the East.

So much the worse for the tourist and for the writer of guide-books! Donegal contains no museums, no entertainment for a rainy day; it attracts the fisherman, the golfer, and the politician, and it also ought to attract the lover of noble scenery and of quaint ways. It is, indeed, a country full of charm and of austere, melancholy beauty; a land to visit and to love, but hardly a land to write about or to illustrate, for a crowded market-place makes a prettier drawing for a Christmas volume than a noble headland, and a picturesque campanile than the Atlantic in a storm.

Thus author and artist have addressed themselves to no easy task, and are to be congratulated on their considerable measure of success. Every one who has been to Donegal will enjoy the fruit of their labours, and no one who intends going there should fail to read it. It is, moreover, a pretty book, containing many charming drawings, although we do not consider it the best work that Mr. Thomson has done, and we should not suppose him intimately acquainted with the country. As for Mr. Gwynn, he has done his difficult work admirably; he loves the country and the people and the showery climate and the bad roads well enough to tell the truth about them, and to make his readers feel that, with lovable places as with lovable persons, the peculiarities and shortcomings are likable, being parts of a charming personality. Indeed, the average bicyclist and fisherman and golfer, having read Mr. Gwynn's book, could safely venture through Donegal, knowing exactly the sort of roads and inns and sport that he may expect, and also the kind of weather. All this is told pleasantly and simply—no easy task when there are no towns to break the monotony of the narration.

Everywhere the reader is informed of the nature of the hotel accommodation (would it have been too much to expect to know also its cost?), and he is also told honestly that posting costs almost a shilling a mile. One excellent chapter is devoted to the fisherman and the golfer; and an introductory chapter with some sound "Advice to Cyclists" is the most entertaining in the book, by reason of the picturesque sayings of such of the peasantry as "have the English" quoted in it:—

"The choicest example I ever heard related to a turnip cutter which had been working stiff, and was handed over to the local mechanic, who explained his operation upon it. 'You see, your reverence, she was a wee thing proud in the pitch, but I ha'e alleviated her bottom.' That meant that the knife had been cutting too perpendicularly, but he had eased the slope of the cutter."

No less delightful is an old farm steward's description of a paddock in early spring:—

"'It's just fit for an outport for them young beasts.' In answer to the objection that it was bare of herbage he replied, 'It's not for what they wad get off it, but they'll just peruse over it' (pronounced 'pereuse')."

Again:—

"A grumbling old woman, asked whether her daughter was not attentive to her, replied, 'Ay, she's kind eneuch by lumps: she's lumpy, Sally is.'"

We fear, however, that Sam Slick fore-stalled the elderly maiden's account of her single state in his classic remark, "Them ez I'd hev wouldn't hev me; and them ez 'ud hev me, the devil wouldn't hev."

A strange local idiom is the use of "rough" for plenty: "A'm no that rough o' cash"; and again, "They're short o' cash, maybe, but there wad be aye a roughness aboot the hoose — meal an' potatoes an' the like."

Some of the phrases quoted are epigrammatic in their brevity, and recall the terse style of the old chieftains; thus we hear of "a poor old man that can nayther work nor want" (want=do without), and who is "just needin' whatever your honer's pleased to give him, back or belly."

Our own experience of the Irish poor is that such happy forms of expression are by no means exceptional, and we agree fully with Mr. Gwynn that the "pleasant talks, by the roadside or in the fields, with carmen or with boatmen, are among the best things to look back on in one's memories of holiday-making" in Ireland, where in spite of possible bad weather, bad inns, and bad train service, there is a never-failing enchantment that changes all the mischances of travel into delightful adventure.

Eras of the Christian Church.—The Post-Apostolic Age. By Lucius Waterman, D.D. With an Introduction by H. C. Potter, Bishop of New York. (Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark.)

Eras of the Christian Church.—The Age of Charlemagne (Charles the Great). By C. L. Wells, Professor of History, University of Minnesota. (Same publishers.)

THESE books belong to a series. We conjecture from its structure that the author of the first volume was selected for his task because he had the reputation in the United States of being a popular preacher, a fair scholar, and an independent thinker. Probably he had not previously pursued investigations into Church history, but knew the subject as a theologian ought to know it. He then may have taken up the Anti-Nicene and Nicene libraries of translations; gone through them carefully, consulting at the same time the books of some of the best of modern patristic scholars, such as those of Lightfoot; and on the basis of this study prepared his chapters. He tells the reader that one of his chief aims was to make them interesting, and he also had in his mind a certain "Ladies' Historical Club." In fact, they read like lectures. For instance, the second sentence of the first chapter runs thus: "The boundaries of the period shall be defined more closely in a moment"; and the same conversational tone pervades the book. The author has certainly succeeded in making his work interesting, and the reader obtains a tolerable idea of the principal facts of Church history.

in the Post-Apostolic age. There are some very noticeable omissions, such as an adequate estimate of the influence of Gnosticism on the subsequent dogmas of the Church, or an account of the catacombs of Rome and their revelations. But on the whole the work is done well.

The author borrows most of his translations from the "Ante-Nicene Library" and the "Post-Nicene Library," generally without acknowledgment. He occasionally disputes the translation. Thus he rejects the rendering of *convenire ad* in the famous passage in Irenæus on the Church of Rome, but he does not seem to have consulted on it the two best editors of that Father, Stieren and Harvey.

The book is curious. Dr. Waterman appears to adopt a strongly dogmatic view on the questions of episcopal government, the sacraments, the Incarnation, and the other doctrines which are prominent in the creed of Anglo-Catholics; yet in the course of his book he discusses all these points with a freedom which would be abhorrent to an Anglo-Catholic; and in the end he proposes a union of Independents and Episcopalians in order to "try again the experiment of a really primitive Church Order."

Still more remarkable is the manner in which he discusses the writings of Apostles and saints. He treats them as he would treat men of the present day: he has respect for them, but there is no symptom of reverence. Thus he maintains that the Epistle of Barnabas is "a very poor letter," but he has no doubt that it was written by "Barnabas, the Apostle, once the companion of St. Paul." In regard to those who reject the authorship of St. Barnabas because they deem it unworthy of an Apostle he says:—

"Their confidence that when once a man was made an Apostle he could not say foolish things, is really touching, but one hardly knows on what it is founded.....That everything written by an Apostle must be the result of a special inspiration is pure modern assumption. The ancient Church did not think so.....If the Apostle Barnabas had a fine, impressive presence, a warm, generous heart, a great gift of speech, and a singularly small share of brains, he would be a most natural person, such as most of us have known, and equally consistent with the narrative of the Acts and of the facts of this curious letter which bears his name."

Of Clemens Romanus he says:—

"They represent him as saying that the Apostles expressly provided that other men should succeed to their office. He may have meant to say that. More probably he did not. But he did contrive a sentence that is wonderfully ambiguous.....It seems just possible that the good man was ambiguous on purpose, distinctly intending that both statements should be covered (and intimated) by his phrase."

In describing the style of St. Ignatius he remarks:—

"It must be acknowledged that the martyr sometimes indulged in a sprawling luxuriance of comparison."

Dr. Waterman presents a vivid picture of Tertullian, in which some of the best features of his character and writings are well portrayed; but he touches in the dark colours here and there. Thus he says:—

"The later books grow worse and worse, but even the mildest of the three (the work, be it remembered, of an exceptionally devoted Chris-

tian) is not fit for a modern Christian to read.It is a false spirituality which takes hold of such a man as Tertullian, so gifted and really so conscientious, and makes him run riot in pride and ugliness and moral coarseness."

Dr. Waterman is equally frank in his treatment of Hippolytus. He allows him credit for all the good qualities which he can discover in him, but he is not blind to the faults of the Bishop of Portus. He ends his estimate in these words:—

"If half that Hippolytus says was true, he ought to have called all the great Churches to his help, and it is a shame to him that he did not. But whether his accusations be true or false, it remains that this scholar with a martyr's courage had also the manners of a fishwife."

Americanisms crop up here and there in the book. Thus:—

"It is maintained, however, by Bishop Wordsworth in his 'Church History,' while it is antagonized by Bishop Lightfoot in his 'Clement'....."

"Men like Antoninus Pius and Marcus Aurelius had a vague idea of a passionless Supreme Being somewhere back of all the powers of the universe."

"It took patience and goodwill to disentangle such a snarl."

Dr. Waterman's book supplies ample material for reflection; but as he seldom cites an authority for his statements, as his judgments seem more the result of transient impressions than of permanent convictions, as he frequently sets down as indubitable what is denied or doubted by many, his assertions must be received with caution. And his scholarship is not always up to the mark. For instance, he does not appear to know that Caius was pronounced Gaius by the Romans, and that the treatise 'De Mortibus Persecutorum' has been attributed by some of the best and latest critics not to Lactantius, but Cæcilius.

By the exigencies of the "series" the age of Charlemagne is called upon to bridge over the gap between the Post-Apostolic age and that of Hildebrand. The central interest lies in the growth and decay of the Frankish power; the development of the Papal power comes in rather as an episode. Prof. Wells is, therefore, merely dealing with a certain period of mediæval history under the guise of an "Era of the Christian Church." But when this qualification is admitted, the book may, on the whole, be commended as a fair compilation from fairly good materials. For the time of Charles the Great himself Prof. Wells makes copious citations from original authorities; but these wear the appearance rather of a garnish than of an essential element in the composition. When he can he, like Dr. Waterman, makes use of translations, and he even quotes Nithard's account of the oath of Strasburg through the medium of Prof. Emerton! He is also too fond of relying on modern generalizations, not always derived from the best authors. But it is just to add that the narrative, though dull and wanting in life, is usually accurate. Where it fails is in grasp and intellectual force. We should, however, be demanding too much from a book like this to expect more than we find in it.

From Cromwell to Wellington: Twelve Soldiers.
Edited by Spenser Wilkinson. (Lawrence & Bullen.)

We must confess to a feeling of disappointment on finding that certain expectations which had been raised by a perusal of the learned editor's prefatory note to this sumptuous volume were hardly fulfilled on the part of most of his contributors. We make this confession, however, with extreme diffidence, because we are conscious that it raises several debatable questions. Indeed, but for the appearance of Mr. Spenser Wilkinson's name upon the title-page and for the opening sentence of his aforesaid note, we should scarcely have ventured upon an objection to an historical method which is not inferior to that usually employed in the production of works designed for the information of the general reader. The plan, however, of enlisting a number of contributors to write separate articles, and then binding them up in a volume, necessarily tends to produce inequality of workmanship. Some of the writers may possess a first-hand acquaintance with their subjects, while others (and this is obvious in the present instance) may have had to acquire their information for the special end of writing their contributions.

That these stories of the nation's soldiers form far more attractive reading than the technical narratives of campaigns and the mere archaeology of military history is a fact which will be readily admitted by all who are accustomed to refer to the highly valuable, but usually ill-written, regimental histories of the present day. Thanks to a stirring title and an introduction by the most popular of our living soldiers, and also the embellishment of some exquisite portraits, the success of this "picture of the British army at work" would have been assured without any claim to deep research. It is, therefore, really all the more creditable to the editor and his assistants that they have spared no pains to make these biographical sketches as complete as the materials that were known to be available would permit. Nearly every one of these narratives is eminently readable and decidedly instructive in itself, and the general literary effect, thanks to skilful editing, is singularly harmonious. Of course, in a work of this kind we could scarcely expect to find any considerable variation in the substance of these oft-told tales; but, although Mr. Fortescue omits any mention of such important incidents as Villars's wounds at Malplaquet and Boufflers's masterly retreat, his estimate of the military conditions of Marlborough's campaigns must be regarded as an important contribution to the archaeology of military history. On the other hand, historians will scarcely be in a position to form a clear idea of the establishment of the Cromwellian army until Mr. Firth's researches have been completed, whilst the siege of Colchester can scarcely be discussed in a single line. But although the disparity of the opposing forces at Marston Moor and Naseby has been clearly shown by Mr. Firth, Col. Ross, and others, this point is left completely out of sight in the present narrative. Again, the new light thrown upon Wolfe's relations with his chiefs and companions in arms by the publication some fifteen

years ago (through the Historical MSS. Commission) of the Townshend MSS., and by an article simplifying this information from unpublished War Office correspondence, which appeared at the same date, has been overlooked by Sir Archibald Alison.

A somewhat similar omission may be noticed in connexion with the fall of Pondicherry. It is not altogether unknown that the close of the campaign in the Carnatic and its sequel in the expedition against Manila, in place of the Mauritius, were marked by the most unseemly and lamentable dissensions between the civilians of the Company and the commanders of the forces placed at its disposal by the Crown. In any case the very painful correspondence of Cornish and Draper, preserved in the Record Office, places this fact beyond dispute, and therefore English writers are scarcely justified in contrasting "the dissensions that disgraced the Franco-Indian officials" with the nobler spirit shown by the British, whose "soldiers and civilians alike vied in patriotic devotion to duty. The almost universal greed for wealth was subordinated to the great aim of the moment." Nevertheless, the chapters of Indian history connected with the names of Clive, Coote, and Lake are exceedingly well written, and the last is a decided acquisition to the band of military "heroes." Another interesting recruit has been found in Abercromby (with a *y*), whose Egyptian campaign is well described by Col. A'Court. It is to be regretted, however, that more use was not made by the writer of the ample materials which exist in the English archives for a description of the Helder expedition, especially since the value of this source has been recognized in Col. John Davis's history of the "Queen's," and by the extensive collections recently made for the Dutch Government. As it is, there is not to be found in this account a single word about the difficulties of the country, which were the chief cause of the failure of the campaign. Perhaps the name of General Baird is most closely associated with the second capture of Cape Town. Unfortunately, however, the colonial despatches which contain the particulars of this expedition have not yet been published in the magnificent series of official texts which are being edited by Dr. Theal for the Cape Government; and the true story of Home Popham's South American expedition still remains to be written.

In the case of the story of Wellington's extraordinary career, and therefore equally in that of Sir John Moore's memorable exploit, there is very little question of unexplored archives that may materially affect the received versions, which are for once based upon the actual official despatches. It is, of course, possible that Col. Henderson or some future biographer may discover many fresh details of the great duke's military career among the MSS. at Apsley House, where the Dutch Government has already been at work, or among the Domestic State Papers; but we imagine that, on the whole, very little remains to be gleaned for the purposes of the student of military history. In strong contrast to most of these slight sketches of campaigns appears the remarkably exhaustive account of the siege of Gibraltar, which is contributed by

Col. Adye under the unfamiliar heading of Baron Heathfield, the title by which Governor Elliott's heroic defence was but feebly rewarded. This, indeed, is history; but alas for the frailty of human nature! The sketch which answers all the requirements of the historical purist is, like most other productions of its kind, the least interesting from the point of view of the general reader.

There remains the much wider question of the representative character of the twelve soldiers selected to represent the work of the British army during a period which has been wisely limited. As to this, it will be evident that the types presented to the reader have been selected with care. At the same time, it must not be forgotten that of the whole twelve only four can be regarded as originating minds, for Peterborough cannot be taken altogether seriously. The wars waged by this country during the second half of the eighteenth century were practically the wars of the two Pitts against the threatened supremacy of the house of Bourbon and the new tyranny which rose from its ashes. For some reasons it could be wished that it had been possible to find places for Wade and Amherst; but we admit that other claims were on the whole to be preferred.

It is with much regret that we have ventured to urge several objections to the historical method of this book, and to point out the neglect of certain possible sources of information; but we have done so because we desired to do its editor the justice of taking his work as a contribution to a department of British history which has to compete with the scientific methods of foreign scholars.

Ballads, Critical Reviews, Tales, Various Essays, Letters, Sketches, &c. By W. M. Thackeray. With a Biographical Introduction by his Daughter, Anne Ritchie; a 'Life of the Author,' by Leslie Stephen; and a Bibliography. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

THE last volume of the "Biographical" Thackeray has now been published, and the whole edition stands before us in all its welcome completeness.

Of actually fresh original matter the world has, naturally enough, not gained much. Thackeray's work had already been fairly well exploited; it was available in convenient forms; and, if the truth must be told, it is not, every word of it, peculiarly worth preserving. For one who was in the bulk of his writings so great, he could be at times remarkably small. But a good deal of important new light has been thrown upon the man himself. We have not, indeed, been taught to revise fundamentally our conception of his general character; but the details of his character are filled in, and the picture has gained in depth and colour. A hundred minute and intimate touches have contributed to this result; and Mrs. Ritchie has put all lovers of good literature for ever in her debt by the loyal and sympathetic comments, the letters and extracts from note-books, and the numerous sketches, with which her chatty introductions are enriched. Most of us were sufficiently familiar with the outlines

of Thackeray's life to group her anecdotes, &c., in their right places; but any necessity which might have arisen of going to outside authorities for a consecutive record is now removed by the happy thought of reprinting Mr. Leslie Stephen's succinct memoir from the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' as an epilogue to the whole edition.

Perhaps the most interesting features of Mrs. Ritchie's own contribution to this final volume are the paragraphs somewhat quaintly headed "P.S. concerning Grandfathers and Grandmothers." The author of 'Vanity Fair' was always much interested in the Thackeray race, "though he did not seem exactly to belong to it himself. They were tall, thin people, with marked eyebrows and clear dark eyes, simple, serious. They were schoolmasters, parsons, doctors, Indian Civil Servants, and some officers thrown in to give us an air." There was an Archdeacon Thackeray who was head master of Harrow, and more than doubled the numbers there. He "kissed H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's hand on being appointed one of his Chaplains-in-ordinary" in June, 1748, and "is said to have been seen walking into his own house a few hours after his death."

William Makepeace, Thackeray's grandfather, was the archdeacon's sixteenth child. He reached India "on his seventeenth birthday with his mother's Bible in his trunk," and took his part, like his sons after him, in the making of an empire. He married a Miss Webb, whose sister, Mrs. Peter Moore, afterwards wrote her a letter which Mrs. Ritchie prints, remarking truly that "it reads like a page out of 'Evelina' or 'Cecilia':—

"The day following Dr. Williams being discarded as a lover [by a third sister, named Charlotte] came Mr. Wodsworth, who had teased us with his company almost incessantly for some time before. He took Mr. Moore aside, and declared a most violent love for Charlotte, entreating that P. M. should give him his interest. Mr. Moore replied with great coolness that she was at her own disposal, and that he did not mean to interfere. Mr. Wodsworth then came to me and told me that Mr. Moore had something to say to me. I accordingly went out, and was a little astonished at Wodsworth's assurance. I rejoined the company with a very grave aspect, and took no further notice, but saw that Mr. W. *agreeable to his bold and constant custom*, had stayed supper without being asked. We had not an opportunity to mention the matter to Charlotte, so that you may guess her surprise when, as we were walking with the Aurioles to the door, Mr. W. laid hold on her, and without further preface began with, 'O dear Miss Webb, don't distract me, I love you to distraction.' Poor Charlotte, who was thunderstruck at so abrupt and indelicate a declaration, was much provoked, and turning short on him only said, 'Bless me, Sir, you're mad, sure!' and immediately joined us in the verandah. Notwithstanding this rebuff, he had the boldness to come the next day to tea, and joined us in our walk; but we received him very coolly, and hardly spoke to him, and Mr. Moore took this opportunity of telling him he must be much less frequent in his visits..... Here endeth the chapter of Mr. Wodsworth."

Here the style is curiously different from that of the one letter remaining of Mrs. Thackeray's own. It is addressed to her son St. John, aged sixteen; and after urging him "on no account to neglect his precious health," she continues: "Remember that a

cheerful, open countenance and fine, graceful carriage is the characteristic of a gentleman and a young man of sense. To feel quite well—and to be so—are quite essential requisites towards succeeding." This is admirable philosophy.

Mrs. Ritchie has also reproduced portraits of the archdeacon and his comely wife, as well as a most delightful drawing by Chinnery (done in 1814) of Thackeray's father and mother, and himself at the age of three. The child's face is extraordinarily individual and full of life.

Many of Thackeray's own sketches, and some of his father's, are given in this volume, and it is interesting to learn that one set of the former, portraying the adventures of "Vivaldi," were exchanged by a schoolboy who had inherited them for a collection of stamps. Apparently the heads of the families interfered, thinking the stamps far more valuable than mere sketches, and the matter was only finally compromised by Prof. Colvin's buying "Vivaldi" for the British Museum. These sketches have never before been published, and are somewhat in the same spirit as the well-known illustrations to "The Famous History of Lord Bateman."

There is further a section of curious quotations from the note-books of "The Four Georges," "almost material for another lecture"; but of the ballads themselves we learn little beyond the facts that Thackeray found verse more agitating to write than prose, and that "The Cane-bottom'd Chair" was his own favourite.

It was the "Legend of St. Sophia of Kiöf," however, which was the indirect means of calling forth a highly characteristic outburst of genuine sentiment, showing the real nature of the so-called "cynic":—

"I wonder if sneering is of the devil and laughter is not wicked? At a delightful industrial school at Aberdeen (where the children's faces and voices choked me and covered my spectacles with salt water) the founder of the school, Sheriff Watson, pulled my 'Ballads' out of his pocket, and bade one of the little ones read out, 'A hundred years ago and more, a city built by burghers stout, and fenced with ramparts round about,' which the little man did in an innocent voice, and a strong Scotch accent of course; but the tone of levity in the ballad pained me, coming from guileless lips, and I turned away ashamed and said to myself, 'Pray God I may be able some day to write something good for children.' That will be better than glory or Parliament. We must try and do it, mustn't we? As soon as we have made a competence for the two young ones, we must see if we can do anything for the pleasure of young ones in general."

The motto of his life is written again in the last verses of "The Ballads," "The End of the Play":—

My song save this is little worth;
I lay the weary pen aside,
And wish you health, and love, and mirth,
As fits the solemn Christmas-tide,
As fits the holy Christmas birth.
Be this, good friends, our carol still,
Be peace on earth, be peace on earth,
To men of gentle will.

By one of those happy plays on words with which men are occasionally inspired, he has himself been called "Good Will."

NEW NOVELS.

On the Edge of a Precipice. By Mary Angela Dickens. (Hutchinson & Co.)

MISS DICKENS has despaired of finding a new plot and new ideas for her latest novel, or perhaps she has deliberately preferred an old combination of incidents and motives to the vehement strain for novelty which is made by many of her fellow-craftsmen in the art of fiction. Her heroine is thrown from her bicycle, and is rescued by a villainous cousin, who proceeds to turn his chance to good account. She recovers everything except her memory, and is as plastic as wax in the hands of Cecil Cochrane and his somewhat unscrupulous sister. The latter is a sort of female Svengali, and she is clever enough to make the handsome heroine, who is naturally slow and unimaginative, play a leading part on the stage with considerable success. That is the scheme of the story, and if the reader begins by thinking it a rather weak basis for artistic work, he will probably be surprised to find that Miss Dickens has put together a really interesting narrative. Violet Cochrane is a well-drawn character, if we except the impossible Svengali business, and she has our sympathy almost from the beginning. Miss Dickens has written better stories, but "On the Edge of a Precipice" contains much good work.

The Romance of Elisavet. By Mrs. W. M. Ramsay. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

THE story of the loves of a Greek girl of to-day and a young man of her own race is very gracefully told in Mrs. Ramsay's book. A simple romance is selected, and one that lends itself well to the purpose of illustrating the life of the day in the neighbourhood of Smyrna. No effort is made to go outside the limited scope of the story, and the writing is proportionately unadorned. The result is unquestionably good, and few readers will deny that "The Romance of Elisavet" is an agreeable addition to the literature of the season. Mrs. Ramsay has elsewhere shown sufficient knowledge of the material with which she deals in this story, and as the wife of Prof. W. M. Ramsay has no doubt had the benefit of his "twelve years' wanderings" in Turkey. Perhaps it should be added that the romance has nothing to do with Armenian atrocities.

Didums. By Jean Macpherson. (Long.)

"WHEN 'God' sends in his little bill" is the most remarkable sentiment expressed in a very short and sentimental little story. The lady who will probably have to pay the account is apparently heartless; but she must have experienced justifiable annoyance when she found how much her husband liked her sister. The man, by the way, seems quite unworthy of the love of either. We fear the story is not very successful as literature.

The Mandate. By T. Baron Russell. (Lane.)

"THERE was a man and his wife and a tertium quid." The man drank and was a brute to his wife, who was a heroine—or, at least, the heroine. So the tertium quid certainly mesmerized, and probably murdered the man, married his wife, and lived unhappy

ever after. Tastes differ, of course. To ours this story seems unpleasant, unprofitable, and not redeemed by any particular skill of narration.

Her Promise True. By Dora Russell. (Digby, Long & Co.)

If the plot and its materials had never been used before "Her Promise True" would have been a most exciting and affecting story. Indeed, it is affecting as it stands, even regarded as an oft-told tale; and young readers who come for the first time upon the dire entanglements which follow from the suppression of love-letters will doubtless feel the same pangs that their elders felt in former generations.

The Newspaper Girl. By Mrs. C. N. Williamson. (Pearson.)

THIS book may be described as a very tolerable piece of journalist's work. It is full of journalism both in subject and style, both, to use the writer's words, coated with "the thick sugar of romance." The plot is sufficiently improbable to render it acceptable to the playwright of the day, and it would not be surprising if a "version" of Mrs. Williamson's story were to be placed on the stage. Incidentally some features of the book are of interest. There is a clever sketch of the methods of modern cheap and popular journalism; there is an ingenious plot describing how the sub-editor of a London paper endeavours to supplant and destroy his chief; and the American lady who plays the part of heroine and *deus ex machina* in one is depicted in glowing terms. The novel is long and not uninteresting, except for an incident which seems mainly introduced to spin out the volume to regulation size. It is in a different vein from most of the stories from the same pen, and, as a whole, superior to any. The writer does not appear to the best advantage when she describes a lady whose "teagown" "billowed away from her expansive hips."

The Lady of the Leopard. By Charles L'Épine.

—*The Resurrection of His Grace.* By Campbell Rae-Brown. (Greening.)

THIS pair may be bracketed together. Both attempt to be "weird"; both fail; and both, in the effort, achieve a charnel-house flavour which is excessively disagreeable.

Les Chimères de Marc le Praistre. Par Henry Rabusson. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)

M. RABUSSON'S new novel is a complete failure, after many recent successes from his pen. He tries to draw a French youth of the rich manufacturing middle-class, who is well-intentioned and able and full of good impulses, but who completely wrecks his life, both by an unfortunate attachment and by the introduction into his works of reforms which are costly, and with which M. Rabusson himself appears not to sympathize. The moral of the book is that it is best to rub along in the beaten track—for young men to do as their experienced mothers tell them, and not to strike out a line of their own. But M. Rabusson is so bored with his hero and his heroine that he suddenly brings their adventures to an end by putting his hero into a lunatic asylum, although the youth

has not displayed up to this point the smallest sign of madness, and is without any hereditary taint. This is a novel which no one can be advised to read, and for which no good word can possibly be said; but we are forced to notice it on account of the great distinction of the author and the admirable character of some of his recent books.

SHORT STORIES.

In view of the usually poor quality of literature evoked by the popular demand for "detective" stories, it may well be hoped that the supply will soon be curtailed. At present it shows no signs of abatement. *The Mystery of the Medea*, by Alexander Vaughan (Pearson), contains two "detective" stories, one of which occupies the larger part of the book. It is not ill constructed, nor is it badly told; and if it could be placed in the hands of a person who had never before read a "detective" story, it might be greeted with enthusiasm. Such a person is, however, not easily found. The main interest for the practised reader of this class of fiction lies in the success or failure of the efforts to postpone the point of detection to the utmost limits. In the case of Mr. Vaughan's volume this effort is overstrained. The second story, "The Third Attempt," is less open to comment on this ground. It may be assumed that in most cases these collections of "detective" stories are the result of an attempt to rescue from the daily or weekly press particular contributions more or less written to order.

The reader's interest is not well sustained in *A Mistaken Identity*, by Ramsden Buckley (Digby, Long & Co.), and it is not always easy to follow the drift of the writer's meaning. The title of the book is the title of the first of seven stories of varying length; and the best that can be said of them is that they preserve the same average of merit throughout. The subjects are all familiar, not to say commonplace, and there is little to distinguish the collection from many that come before us for notice. One may, perhaps, be said to have an element of interest above its fellows, and that is a story of a robbery of diamonds in St. Petersburg; but this is susceptible of better telling. The writer's grammar is often faulty, but this is a common failing even with the best of story-tellers.

SCOTTISH HISTORY.

Scotland and the Protectorate, by C. H. Firth (Scottish History Society), is a continuation of his "Scotland and the Commonwealth," reviewed in the *Athenæum* of July 17th, 1897. This volume runs to 494 pages, and consists of 314 letters and papers relating to the military government of Scotland from January, 1654, to June, 1659. These letters, by Monck, Lilburne, Charles II., Edward Hyde, &c., are drawn mainly from the papers of William Clarke in the library of Worcester College, Oxford, and from the Clarendon MSS. in the Bodleian. They illustrate a little-known period. Hill Burton's "History" dismisses it in less than ten pages; and Sir Walter Scott misdates its chief episode in Flora MacIvor's verses "To an Oak-tree in the Churchyard of —, in the Highlands of Scotland, said to mark the Grave of Captain Wogan, killed in 1649," for Col. Edward Wogan got his death-wound in a skirmish with the English in the beginning of 1654, having the month before ridden northward from London with twenty cavaliers, "gallantly mounted, richly clothed, and well armed." There is little about Wogan here; one could wish there was more. Instead there is much marching and counter-marching up hill and down dale, and much tedious repetition in the treatises concluded between Monck and Athol, Glencairn, Kenmure, Montrose, Sea-

forth, Loudon, Lorne, Reay, &c. At the tenth repetition one wearis of the clause:—

"That the officers shall be at liberty to march away with their horses and swords, and the privates sojourning with their horses, to their respective habitations or places of abode, where they are to sell their horses within three weeks to their best advantage," &c.

Of fighting there is practically none, and a chimney afire comes almost as an excitement. At the end Lochiel and Glengarry (the latter disappointed of his earldom) are left meek attendants at Richard Cromwell's proclamation at Inverlochy. But the book should be of high value to the Scottish genealogist, if only for its lists of justices of the peace in 1656; and there are not a few items of more general interest. A Scottish jury in 1654 could hardly, it seems, "finde a Waye to hange Mosse Troopers"; twenty St. Andrews collegians "went out" that same year to join the Royalists; at Cromwell's proclamation at Edinburgh in 1657 "of 5 or 6,000 Scotsmen that were present nott one Scotchman open'd his mouth to say God blesse my Lord Protector"; and there are little notices of transportation to Barbadoes (pp. 153, 247), witchcraft at Ayr (p. 382), and legislation against "those people commonly called Egyptians" (p. 403). There is a wonderful canting letter from the Merry Monarch to the Scottish clergy (1654):—

"I doubt not but your memory of my conversation and behaviour amongst you will preserve me from the scandals of all kindes which my enimies will not fayle to rayse against me, and that you will prudently consider how necessary it is for me to make frendes of all sortes of men, and therefore, in some sense, to become all things to all men, never forgettinge to walke alwayes as in the sight of the most High. I pray God this heavy exercise of our afflictions may produce that good spirit in us all, that we may be as sensible of our sins as of our suffering, and thereupon lifte up our penitent eyes towards him from whose justice our punishments procede, and by whose mercy alone we can be relieved, and that I hope will draw downe his eyes of compasyon towards us. Remember me in your godly prayers, as Your constant and most affectionate Frend."

And there is a curious "Assessment of Wages for the Shire of Edinburgh" (1656), communicated by Mr. W. B. Blaikie, in which occur the words *morning*, for morning dram, and *covain*, an inferior kind of mason. *Coxsane*, for coxswain (1652, p. 413), is also worth making a note of; and in the same deposition one gets a fresh instance of Argyll's duplicity. There is a good deal in Mr. Firth's volume; at the same time, it is pretty stiff reading.

Emeralds chased in Gold, by John Dickson, F.S.A.Scot. (Oiphant, Anderson & Ferrier), is the meaningless title (torn from Scott's "Marmion") of a book on the ten islets of the Firth of Forth. But the text is far worse than the title. When in the first chapter Inchgarvie Castle, founded in 1491, is spoken of as "an ordinary Peel Tower, of Norman construction," and Rosyth Castle as "the birthplace of Cromwell's mother," one knows pretty well what to expect; expectation in this case is more than justified. Mr. Dickson loves to quote Latin. He gives an entire charter by James IV., of which these lines are a sample:—

"Sciatis nos cum *axis amento* et deliberatione *tocius parlamenti et councili nostri* pietatem et compassionem habentes de spoliatione dedicantes et *Rapina quam plurimaruam navium tam extraneis quam ligies et subditis nostri pertinientium que direris *victibus* per Anglicos dacos aliarumque nacionum piratas extra acquam et Rivulum nostrum de forth *Rapitis* et spoliationibus fuerit pesantesque immane dispendimus *dampnum* et vilipendium que nobis *Jude* [rendered "from this"? inde] Regno nostro ligies et mercatoribus *emanorunt*."*

Eleven bad blunders in as many lines. The italics are ours, but the errors deserve exhibition. Later on comes twice over the Pilgrims' Well in the Isle of May, "ubi steriles mulieres *sporum habendi* venientes non defraudantur." Mr. Dickson writes learnedly about architecture. "The entrance," he says, "to the Choir [of

the abbey church of Inchcolm] would, of course, be in the centre of the east wall." But why, pray, "of course"? That is just where, of course, the entrance never would be. Mr. Dickson is sometimes rather severe with his predecessors, e.g., with Skene (p. 105) and Froude (p. 129). In his criticism of the former he always, we notice, writes "Urbs Guidi" and "Oswin," hitherto given as "Urbs Giudi" and "Oswiu." In the following passage on Froude's period he quite takes us out of our depth:—

"In 1558 the Isle of May passed to John Forret of Fyngask from Sir James Balfour of Pittendreich, an eminent lawyer and judge, knighted by Queen Mary shortly after her return from France. His connexion with the famous 'Casket Letters' is well known. Balfour was a staunch supporter of the hapless Queen; and after her surrender to the Confederate Lords on the ridge of Consland, in 1567, he held the Castle of Edinburgh in her interests. Ultimately, however, he came under the spell of the Regent Moray, and delivered that fortress into his hands. As one of the conditions of capitulation he demanded a gift of the Priory of Pittenweem, then held by the Regent *in commendam*. This, in all probability, carried along with it a confirmation of his rights to the May. False to Mary, he soon proved false to Moray, and engaged in intrigues on behalf of his former benefactress. This indiscretion lost to Sir James all his honours, and Moray, in 1558, conferred the island upon John Forret of Fyngask, *cum mansione, et portubus.*"

The oftener one re-reads it, the more does this passage confound one; but there are many mysteries elsewhere almost as insoluble. The heir of Sir John de Lyon is said to have been ennobled by James I. as Baron Glamis, and in 1606 to have been created Earl of Kinghorn. He must have been a very old man indeed, for the Glamis title dates not from James I.'s, but from James II.'s reign (1445). Marshal Keith was "the last of his illustrious line." We had thought until now that his elder brother, the Earl Marischal, survived him by twenty years. There were Lords of the Congregation, it appears, in 1549 (p. 124); and

"the valiant Jenny Geddes flung the three-legged stool at the head of the 'Popish puling fool' of a dean, as he went into St. Giles Cathedral, 'wi' mickle gravity,' to 'say mass at her lug.'"

John Blackadder is minister of Traquair, not Troqueer—but that one has seen before; and Mary of Guise again dances for joy at the sight of the white corpses three miles off; and her little daughter keeps garden in mid-winter on Inchmahome; and Dr. William Harvey visits the Bass at the age of seventy. There is much besides, and one thing, perhaps, which were as well away—the account of the "Grandgore" of 1497. It is very touching—the unfortunates finding a grave in their island home, the wild waves singing their requiem, and all the rest of it. Still, for the sake of the Young Person, this page would have best been omitted.

AMERICAN FICTION.

THE Spanish war against the Filipinos, the destruction of the Spanish ships by Admiral Dewey, and the subsequent occupation of Manila by the Americans are matters which become of the utmost importance to the love story in *Jack Curzon*, by Archibald Clavering Gunter (Routledge & Sons). Jack Curzon, an English lad, and Philip Marston, an officer on one of the American ships, are represented as deeply in love with two cosmopolitan daughters of a planter; and the efforts of a German trader to push his country's interests and to obtain possession of the property of the planter are cleverly used to add to the interest of the story. Fortunately for the ladies, a Spanish officer falls in love with them, and brings them safely to Manila at the cost of his own life, and all ends happily. The story has all the characteristics of the same writer's numerous and sensational narratives, of which "Mr. Barnes of New York" is probably the best known. It is briskly written, never halting in its interest, and always high-coloured. The heroine, for instance, is described

as possessing "a pair of appealing, take-me-to-your-heart, American eyes of the brightest sapphire." The use of the historical present grows fatiguing as the book progresses, and is not an agreeable feature of the work. Several foot-notes and pages of appendix are unusual in fiction, European or American.

The Psychical Research Society may find much food for reflection in *My Invisible Partner*, by Thomas S. Denison (Gay & Bird). In a preface to his story the author urges that all great productions of literature have, in their *dénouement* at least, a suggestion of the supernatural. There is nothing in the book approaching to the description of a great production of literature, although it is an interesting and well-told story of sensation and melodrama that may well become popular. The scene is laid mostly in New Mexico, and the period of time is recent. Readers will have to swallow such phrases as "strange psychical experiences" and the "reflex matrix of the soul"; there is a great deal of American spelling in the printed pages, such as "fiber" for *fibre*; and now and then occurs a word such as "paw-paw" (the luscious fruit of a tree), that will puzzle the European reader. Nevertheless it is a refreshing piece of healthy fiction, which may well serve to vary the monotony of the average novel of the day.

BOOKS ABOUT THE COLONIES.

An important work in two volumes published by Mr. Fisher Unwin, being an illustrated *History of the Laws and Courts of Hongkong*, by Mr. Norton-Kyshe, is of more general interest than its title suggests. Hong Kong has been peculiarly happy in having had from time to time the services of a great number of most distinguished men, such, for example, as Sir John Bowring, Sir Julian Pauncefote, and Sir John Bramston; and the book before us, instead of being a mere dry history of courts and of laws, yields a large amount of material to those interested even in the personal quarrels by which, from the time of Mr. Chisholm Anstey, the history of Hong Kong has been marked. There are in the volume also considerable extracts from the local comic papers, among which are some most amusing veiled descriptions of Sir John Smale, a well-known Chief Justice, afterwards celebrated in this country by the service which he gave to the cause of the protection of aboriginal races. All who are interested in our position in the East will find this book of value.

M. André, the publisher, who is also secretary to the French African Committee, publishes in his "Librairie Africaine et Coloniale" *Fochoda : la France et l'Angleterre*, by M. Robert de Caix. This is a most valuable volume, which we can highly recommend to all who are interested in Anglo-French relations or in Africa. It presents a fair statement of the French side of the case and has excellent maps. There is a good deal of information in the book about a matter of which we have several times written—the Bonchamps expedition towards Fashoda. It appears that Capt. Marchand fully expected its arrival, and sent his best steamer to look for it, but found nothing. The Bonchamps expedition—which has been said to have got within 100 kilomètres of Sobat, at the junction of the Nile and the Sobat river—according to our author failed, after losing many Ethiopians by disease, and commenced to retrace its steps on the 30th of December, 1897, having only come within 200 kilomètres of the Nile. It did not miss, at this point on the Sobat, Capt. Marchand's steamer by very long. The confusion, to which we have previously alluded, as to an Ethiopian expedition led by Frenchmen which reached the Nile, is caused by the fact, here clearly explained, that the other column was a later expedition, commanded by the Russian Col. Artamonoff, and accompanied by two French warrant officers, Faivre and Potter. It seems clear that they

succeeded in reaching the Nile, but at a point much further south, which Marchand, on account of the Sudd, could not have reached. The general doctrine of the book is the favourite view of the French colonial party—that France must make up its mind to be friends with Germany if it intends to thwart us, and that if it will not reconcile itself to friendship with the German Emperor it had better reconcile itself to the abandonment of French colonial schemes. The author does not appear to be so thoroughly read in English Blue-books as he is in other sources of information. He says that it is rumoured that Lord Kimberley watered down the famous declaration of Sir Edward Grey, and he supplies half a page of explanation upon this point, as matter which he has picked up, whereas it is all in Lord Salisbury's Blue-book. The author, like all Frenchmen, believes that the Cavendish expedition was a Government expedition intended to reach Fashoda, and he classes it with the Macdonald expedition. Of course, we know here that the Cavendish expedition was a private expedition, and was stopped, not, as our author thinks, by the Uganda insurrection, but by the action of our Government.

The Government Printer at Sydney publishes *A Statistical Account of the Seven Colonies of Australasia, 1897-8*, by Mr. Coghlan, the well-known Government Statistician of New South Wales. This is not the first time that the mother colony has published a volume on the whole of Australasia, but the account of the seven colonies before us may have the advantage of coming at the moment of a federal agreement—now probable. There is a map prefixed which shows the rainfall of Australia, and which is disagreeable to South Australia and to Western Australia, inasmuch as it brings out the fact that a large portion of the area of these two vast colonies has a rainfall of under five inches—that is, a desert climate, while a considerable part of New South Wales and of Queensland has a rainfall of from ten to fifty inches. The introduction states that Sydney is now the fourth seaport of the British Empire, and the first of those outside England. Another striking statement by Mr. Coghlan is that Australia contains a fourth of the sheep of the world. The great rival of Australia is South America, to which there is, so far as we have seen, no reference in the book. The figures of the exportation, for example, of goods of British production to the Argentina, relatively to the population, are decidedly startling to those who believe in trade following the flag, or even the tongue. The volume, except for land laws, is rather statistical than explanatory of the differences between colony and colony. With regard, however, to the land laws, the point, no doubt, most interesting to intending emigrants, there is a statement of the law in each colony.

The same author and printer are responsible, on behalf of the same Government, for a *Statistical Register of New South Wales*, which is a collection of thirteen parts (of which the volume consists) which have previously been issued separately. It is the statistical volume upon which the information in the annual publication of the Government Statistician ('Wealth and Progress of New South Wales') is based, and is intended to be consulted along with that publication, the appearance of which we have from time to time noticed.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

LIKE Mrs. Gaskell's other books, *Nelson's Friendships*, 2 vols. (Hutchinson & Co.), which, by the author's lamented death in the course of last year, must remain her last work, is daintily got up and beautifully illustrated; but as a contribution to Nelson's history it can scarcely be taken seriously. It has been, in fact, written with the avowed purpose of maintaining that the relations of Nelson and Lady Hamilton were those of platonic friendship; and as there is a good deal of awkward evidence to the con-

trary, it is disposed of by the simple allegation of forgery, unsupported except by the statement that Mr. Mayer, of Liverpool, from whom many of the incriminating letters were bought by the late Mr. Alfred Morrison, "was known to be an incautious, though extensive buyer of MSS.....who often found himself possessed of spurious MSS." The sponsor for these letters, however, is not Mayer, but Pettigrew; and though, with culpable carelessness, Pettigrew neglected to explain how they came into his possession or where they came from, the concurrence of dates is in itself fairly strong evidence that they were part of the papers given by Emma to Alderman Smith; and, when added to the handwriting, the style, and the numerous allusions to points which no one but Nelson himself—not even Emma—could have fully understood, may be taken as a proof of their being genuine. There would, in fact, be no difficulty about so accepting them, were it not that they are contradictory to our preconceptions of Nelson's character; but this is not enough to stamp as forgeries documents which have stood the test of very close examination as to the points named above. Before the question can be admitted as within the limits of discussion it is needful to find a possible motive, some advantage to somebody, some person by or for whom the forgery may have been committed; but nothing of this kind has been adduced. There is the same utter want of evidence for the astonishing suggestion that Capt. Parker was the father—some unknown woman the mother—of Horatio. That any person, after seeing the miniature of Horatio reproduced in vol. ii. p. 237, could have any doubt as to the name of Horatio's father is not the least curious of the many curious points in this strange problem.

Erin Quintiana; or, Dublin Castle and the Irish Parliament, 1767-1772. By Eblana. (Dublin, Duffy & Co.)—Neither the title nor the appearance of this little book attracts. It is printed in worn type which is not set straight on the pages, and it is so badly bound that it falls to pieces on the first reading. Messrs. Duffy & Co. must turn out better work than this, or even the most patriotic Irish authors will take their custom to Saxon publishers and printers. Eblana has every right to feel aggrieved, for his (or her) account of Dublin under the Viceroyalty of Townshend is bright and vivid; he has ransacked the histories, State papers, newspapers, and gossip of the time with excellent result, and has painted a lifelike picture of a phase of life that has passed for ever. 'Erin Quintiana' may be read with interest alike by those who are ignorant of Irish history and by those to whom the subject is painfully familiar; it is not a profound work, but, unlike most books which aim at popularity, it is really entertaining, and the narration, though admirably simple, has an old-world primness well in keeping with the period. Then, too, there is little moralizing; Eblana is satisfied to tell the tale and leave its application to the reader. We shall look for more pictures from Irish history by the same hand.

SOME excellent articles on Bismarck which appeared in the *Revue de Paris* are now reissued, with additions, under the title of *Le Prince de Bismarck*, by M. Charles Andler, and published by M. Georges Bellal, of Paris. The general picture of Bismarck and of his policy is sound enough and fair enough, though it comes from a French source. Indeed, the whole volume might be treated as a valuable corrective to that recently published by Mr. W. Jacks and noticed by us. But there is a startling exception to the possibilities of praise. The portion of history thus specially set aside—not slurred over, as by Mr. Jacks, but put into a chapter by itself, entitled "Les Origines" of the war of 1870—exposes the Prussian machinations of 1869, and quotes the Prince of Roumania's memoirs

—of which, by the way, we are glad to see that Mr. Sidney Whitman is preparing a partial (why not a complete?) translation. Our author, however, makes not the faintest reference to the French answer, which was the preparation in the autumn of 1869 of the detailed military alliance between France and Austria, the visits of General Lebrun to Vienna and of the Archduke Albert to Paris, the conversations with Louis Napoleon, the arrangement with the Emperor of Austria that the war was not to be in 1870, but to commence in May, 1871, and the consequent precipitation of the war by the resuscitation of the Hohenzollern candidature, the facts as to the alliance having been communicated to Bismarck by the Hungarian Ministry, who were opposed to the Austrian course. All this rests to some extent upon conjecture, but it is conjecture based upon a series of facts which have given to the doubtful points the necessary solidity. The only point which is now really open is whether the Austrians expected, in all their arrangements with France, that these would be communicated to Bismarck, and that in consequence, the war being precipitated, they would be free from the necessity of taking part—in fact, whether Austrian action in the matter was *bond fide*.

The *Annual Register* for 1898 has been published by Messrs. Longman & Co. We have in previous years expressed our doubts as to the wisdom of the arrangement of this book and its index; but we have always admitted that it is difficult in the case of so old-established a work of reference to make a change, and that it is upon the whole well edited and keeps to its high level of modern times. In the present issue the account of Austria during the year is, perhaps, less good. In the Russian chapter there is a certain mixed use of pounds and roubles, and it must also be remembered that the rouble means different things. The "silver rouble," which is, in fact, of paper, now bears the fixed Government ratio of 3 to 2 as compared with the gold rouble, and it would be better another year to say distinctly what is meant. It is stated in the article that the revenue of Russia is 146 millions of pounds sterling. According to the "Statesman's Year-Book" it is about 100 millions of pounds sterling, and we fancy that the cause of the discrepancy is to be sought in the different values attributed to the rouble. The matter has vital bearing on the statistics of Russian naval expenditure, which are at the present moment often quoted in this country without explanation as to the rate which is taken for the rouble. The Russian chapter states: "Russia has twenty-two divisions of cavalry, while Germany has only one cavalry division of the Guards." This is obviously an ambiguous sentence, and it is undoubtedly misleading to the public. The Russian cavalry is numerous, and probably amounts to about double that of Germany; but the Germans have a cavalry division in every army corps. The statement that some of the Russian cavalry have "been supplied with bayonets as an experiment" reminds us that it is not an experiment tried for the first time, as the mounted grenadiers of Napoleon's Guard and many other cavalry in various armies carried muskets with bayonets in the Great War. The article on the Cape of Good Hope has a slightly anti-Schreiner turn. The late Government of the Cape is credited with the desire to help the British navy in such words as to suggest a difference of policy between the two sides on this matter. As a fact the present Government has rather advanced on the offer of the late Government, though the late Government did not carry its offer into effect, and the present Government has not yet done so. The article on East Africa in naming the Abyssinian Treaty says nothing of cession, but states only that "the definite adoption of a frontier line between the Somali Coast Protectorate and Abyssinia was announced." There was a definite

enough line on our side before the treaty, and what happened was that a slice of the Protectorate was handed over to Menelek, who had already been in the habit of making raids into it. The statement that Australian federation was "relegated to a dim and remote future" is somewhat at variance with other statements under 'Australasia' and with the facts. The name of Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice is wrongly split in one passage, but rightly in others. There are few, however, of such trifling errors.

MR. MURRAY has issued a pretty new edition of Hayward's *Art of Dining*, with notes by Mr. C. Sayle.

The late Mr. Palgrave's selections from the *Lyrical Poems by Alfred, Lord Tennyson, and In Memoriam* have been reissued in "The Golden Treasury Series" by Messrs. Macmillan.

THAT most useful volume *Crockford's Clerical Directory* (Horace Cox) has reached its thirty-first issue. The work has long ago acquired a good name for accuracy, and the editor exerts himself strenuously to justify its reputation.—*The Nursing Profession: How and Where to Train*, edited by Sir Henry Burdett (Scientific Press), is an excellent manual of the kind for which Sir H. Burdett possesses a peculiar talent. The price of the volume is so low as to deserve special mention; but it has the defect of having no date on the title-page. A similar publication of Sir Henry's is the edition for 1899 of that valuable work of reference *Burdett's Official Nursing Directory* (Scientific Press).

MR. LOMAS has revised and improved the eleventh edition of O'Shea's *Guide to Spain* (Black), a capital book in its way. He still retains a sentence which, were it known to our neighbours across the Channel, would cause them great amusement: "Almansa, celebrated for the battle won by Philip V.'s army, under Berwick, over the Archduke of Austria's troops." The italics are ours.—*Tourist's Vade Mecum of Spanish Colloquial Conversation* (Pitman & Sons) may prove useful to those who travel in the Peninsula with little or no knowledge of the language; but any Britisher who enters a restaurant and asks, "Qué bebidas tiene Vd. que no contenga alcohol," will surely add to the reputation of his countrymen for eccentricity.—*The Sportsman's and Tourist's Guide to the Rivers, Lochs, &c., of Scotland*, by Mr. Watson Llyall, is a serviceable guide.

We have on our table *An Introduction to the Study of the Renaissance*, by Lilian F. Field (Smith & Elder).—*Latin Exercises*, Third Part, by the Rev. A. J. Church (Seeley).—*A Century of Indian Epigrams, chiefly from the Sanskrit of Bhartrihari*, by Paul E. More (Harper).—*Edward Fitzgerald: Chronological List of his Books exhibited by the Caxton Club* (Chicago, Lakeside Press).—*The Evangel of Joy*, by E. Gibson (Grant Richards).—*The Principles of Bacteriology*, by Dr. F. Hueppé, translated from the German by Dr. E. O. Jordan (Kegan Paul).—*Romances*, by E. Eglington (MacQueen).—*The Book of Bulls*, edited by G. R. Neilson (Simpkin).—*Gwen Penri*, by J. Burton (Stock).—*Salvage*, by Lady Magnus (Nutt).—*The Coming of Spring, and other Poems*, by J. A. (Oxford, Blackwell).—*Umbris Cœli*, by C. Reade (The New Century Press).—*Zenobia, a Drama in Four Acts*, by R. Warwick Bond (Elkin Mathews).—*An Indian Night, and other Poems*, by Zarac (Edinburgh, Hunter).—*Why should We Worry?* by J. R. Miller, D.D. (S.S.U.).—*The Works of the Spirit*, by E. F. E. Yeatman (S.P.C.K.).—*Les Cuirs de Bœuf*, by Georges Polti (Paris, 'Mercure de France'). Among New Editions we have *A Practical Arithmetic*, by J. Jackson (Low).—*Aids to Practical Geology*, by G. A. J. Cole (Griffin).—*A Friend's Hand* (S.P.C.K.).—*Basil Lyndhurst*, by R. N. Carey (Macmillan).—*In the Name of Liberty*, by Florence Marryat (Digby & Long).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Andrewes's (L.) *Private Devotions*, newly translated by P. G. Medd, 12mo. 4/- Askwith's (H. H.) *The Epistle to the Galatians, an Essay on its Destination and Date*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 net. Brooke's (C. B.) *This Church and Realm*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 Ezekiel, edited by C. H. Toy, royal 8vo. 10/6 net. Hitchcock's (F. R. M.) *Clement of Alexandria*, 12mo. 3/- Hutchins's (T.) *A View of the Atonement*, cr. 8vo. 4/- Joly's (H.) *St. Ignatius of Loyola*, cr. 8vo. 3/- Joshua, edited by the Rev. W. H. Bent, royal 8vo. 6/- MacColl's (M.) *The Reformation Settlement*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 net. Satterlee's (H. V.) *The New Testament Churchmanship*, 6/- Weir's (T. H.) *A Short History of the Hebrew Text of the Old Testament*, cr. 8vo. 5/-

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Britten's (F. J.) *Old Clocks and Watches and their Makers*, 8vo. 10/- net. Cole's (A. S.) *Ornament in European Silks*, 4to. 32/- net. Law's (R.) *Vandyk's Pictures at Windsor Castle Described*, imperial folio, boards, 12s/- net.

Poetry.

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A NOTE ON THE WORD "ANNUITY."

WITH all respect, I propose a slight emendation in the 'New English Dictionary' with respect to the word *annuity*. It is there derived from the French *annuité*; and that again from the Latin *annuitas*.

I submit that the form *annuité* is not continental French, but Anglo-French; and that *annuitas* is not continental Latin, but Anglo-Latin.

The form *annuité* is given by Littré; but he has only one quotation for it, and that is from a fifteenth-century document, in which there is a reference to England in the same sentence. The word is conspicuously absent from Cotgrave and Palsgrave; and I should like to ask if the word appears in any respectable French author of any antiquity. Even Littré's quotation is from Godefroy, who was, I presume, a reader of English history.

But, as an Anglo-French word, I have already given a reference for it to the Year-books of Edward I. for the years 1304-5; and again, in the same set, for the years 1292-3, we meet with the spelling *annuelle*. To the best of my recollection, *annuité* occurs in these documents over and over again. As an A.-F. word it is common enough.

The quotations for *annuitas* in Ducange are still more significant. He refers for it to John Cowel, to the 'Monasticum Anglicanum,' to a charter of an Archbishop of York, to Littleton, and to Rastal. Every reference is to England.

It is too frequently forgotten that Anglo-French was a living language, capable of evolving words of its own. And the English occupation of France gave an opportunity for the French to borrow words from Anglo-French; so that it is by no means to be assumed that the borrowing was always all one way.

I think it obvious that *annuity* is a specifically Anglo-French word; and that, if it was ever used in France (except in quite modern times), it was merely borrowed from England. Undoubted examples of Anglo-French words are *duty* and *dismal*. Neither of these can be found in any continental French author of any date whatever.

WALTER W. SKEAT.

SALES.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON & HODGE sold on Thursday, the 4th inst., a portion of the library of the late Mr. H. Rutter, which included: An Album Amicorum, with emblems by Alciat, and

coats of arms and autographs, 1548, 10v. Horæ B.V.M., MS. on vellum, fifteenth century, illuminated, 10v. 15s.; another with numerous miniatures, fifteenth century, 50l. Blomesfield's History of Norfolk, extra-illustrated, large paper, 11 vols., 4to., 1805-10, 20v. 10s. Dugdale's Monasticon, by Caley, Ellis, and Bandinel, 8 vols., 1817-30, 21v. Hasted's History of Kent, 4 vols., 1778-89, 19v. Lipscomb's History of Buckingham, large paper, 4 vols., 1847, 16v. Manning and Bray's Surrey, 4 vols., 1814, 16v. 10s. Morant's Essex, 2 vols., 1768, 11v. Nash's History of Worcestershire, 2 vols., 1799, 10s. Shaw's History of Staffordshire, large paper, 2 vols., 1798-1801, 18v. 10s. Surtees and Raine's History of Durham, 5 vols., 1816-52, 18v. 10s.

The same auctioneers sold on Friday and Saturday, the 5th and 6th inst., a portion of the library of Sir George Clerk, Bart., of Penicuick, N.B., formed originally by John Clerk of Eldin, amongst which were some highly interesting and rare books and tracts, the following being the chief: *Æsopus, Vita et Fabule, Latinum per Rinucium factæ, woodcuts, c. 1480, 64l. Nova Francia*; or, Description of Virginia, n.d. (16-), 29v. 10s. *Bannatyne Club Books* (109) 88l. Boccacio, Thirteen Most Pleasant Questions, in his Book named *Philocolo*, Englished by H. G., 1587, 11v. Life and Acts of Robert Bruce, Edin., G. Lithgow, 1648, 15v. Sir John Clerk, Compendious System of the Noblest Parts of Agriculture, original MS., 1671, 12v. 15s. Poliphili Hypnerotomachia (Italian text), 1545, 14v. German Engravings of Sieges, Battles, Views, &c. (324), 1559, 14v. 10s. Horæ B.V.M., Paris, Hygman (1520-36), 29v. 10s. John Knox, Answer to Blasphemous Cavillations by an Anabaptist, 1560, 10v. 10s. Linschoten's Voyages into ye Easte and Weste Indies, maps by William Rogers, 1598, 10v. 10s. The Moderate Intelligencer, 1645-9, complete, 26v. Piranesi, Vedute di Roma, 10v. Pius II., Papa, Epistole, &c., autograph of W. Drummond of Hawthornden, 1492, 10v. Allan Ramsay's The Battle, and other Pieces, first editions, 1716-18, 15v. John Reid, The Scots Gard'ner, Edin., 1683, 7v. 15s. George Scot, Model of the Government of the Province of East-New-Jersey in America, Edin., 1685, 87l. Thibault, Academie de l'Espée, 1626, 11v. 15s. J. M. W. Turner, Liber Studiorum, original impressions published by the artist, 1812-19, 185l. Vaughan's Golden Fleece, 1626, 15v. Walton's Angler, fourth edition, original sheep, 1668, 17l. Wilson's Account of Carolina, &c., 1682, 16v. Horæ B.V.M., MS. with seventeen miniatures in Clovio Eve binding, Sec. XV., 102l.; another, with twelve miniatures, from F. J. Foucault's library, Sec. XV., 90l.

THE RELIEF OF LONDONDERRY.

Trinity College, Melbourne, March 18, 1890.

A GOOD many years ago, when studying in the Bodleian for a special purpose the contemporary documents relating to the siege of Londonderry, I was forced to the conviction that Macaulay's brilliant account of the breaking of the boom was far from accurate in detail, especially in wholly ignoring the important services rendered by the long-boat of H.M. frigate Swallow. Macaulay evidently followed very closely the narratives of Walker and Mackenzie, neither of whom says anything about the part which the Swallow's boat took in the action. The conjecture of your correspondent Mr. Oppenheim in the *Athenæum* of January 21st, that the boom was cut by the crew of the Swallow's long-boat, is strongly supported by the careful account in Reid's 'History of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland' (President Killen's edition, vol. ii. p. 386), in which are collected from contemporary authorities many interesting particulars not given by either Walker or Mackenzie. I believe that it will be found

that due credit for their achievement is given to the sailors of the Swallow in the despatches published in the *London Gazette*, Nos. 2476-8. Unfortunately I cannot make quite sure of this at present, as the Melbourne Public Library has no numbers of the *London Gazette* earlier than 1863. Not only did the men in the Swallow's boat cut the boom, but they also towed the Mountjoy and the Phoenix to the quay. There is nothing very astonishing in this feat, as the Mountjoy, the largest of the victualling ships, was only 135 tons burden.

Later historians seem to have unquestioningly followed Macaulay. Mr. S. R. Gardiner, in his 'Student's History of England,' gives practically the same account, and so also Mr. J. R. Green in his 'History of the English People,' vol. iv. p. 42 (1880).

ALEX. LEEPER.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE SARACENS.

Daylesford, Sunningdale.

THE review of my 'History of the Saracens' in the *Athenæum* of April 22nd contains a number of statements which I cannot allow to pass without correction.

1. As regards the derivation of Gibraltar, Ibn Khaldūn (vol. iv. p. 117) expressly says that the place where Tārik ibn Ziad landed "is called after him *Jabl(u) Tārik*." I have followed him here, and in the story of Roderick and Count Julian's daughter.

2. Regarding the offer by Richard of England of his sister's hand to Saladin's brother, Ibn Khaldūn speaks of it in terms which leave no doubt that he at least did not regard it as a "joke." He tells us (vol. v. p. 327) of the proposal, of the conditions attached, of its acceptance by Saladin, and of the interference of "the priests and monks" which led to its being broken off. Of course he, like the other Arab historians, regards the breaking off of the negotiations as an act of treachery.

3. I adopt Von Hammer's views regarding the complicity of Richard with the assassination of Conrad of Montferrat, although I am aware of the well-intentioned and patriotic endeavours recently made to absolve his memory from obloquy.

4. There is evidently some misapprehension regarding the Hussainiyyah mentioned by me in the foot-note at p. 613. I did not speak of any "mosque" of that name, but of a building where meetings commemorative of the martyrdom of Hussain are held. Such a building did exist in Cairo thirty years ago, when I was there, and I believe exists now. Lane speaks of it as "the mosque of Hhasaneyn" (see 'Manners and Customs of the Egyptians,' vol. i. pp. 271, 303, and vol. ii. p. 168). He also calls it the *Mash-hed*.

5. Nasir Khusru ('Safarnâmeh,' p. 44) is my authority for the gates of Cairo mentioned by me in p. 613.

6. I have followed the editor of the 'Recueil des Historiens des Croisades' ("Historiens Orientaux") in locating al-Kharâb (vol. ii. p. 14); and in identifying Bilbâi with ancient Pelusium the editor of the 'Kitâb ul-Itibâr.'

7. Although the country, Misr (Egypt), is written without the article *al*, the city al-Misr ul-Kâhirâ is perfectly correct.

8. My statement that Abdul Malik was the first Moslem sovereign who opened a mint in Iamâl is borne out by Ibn Khaldûn (vol. iii. p. 44).

9. Although the battle of Tiberias commenced on a Friday, the reviewer is right; the crowning victory was gained on Saturday. The operations began on Thursday. AMEER ALL.

* * Syed Ameer Ali's "corrections" show that he does not understand historical evidence. He appeals to Ibn Khaldûn, who died in the fifteenth century, as an authority for events of the seventh, eighth, and twelfth centuries. To set up this able writer's opinions against the evidence of a trustworthy person actually employed in the negotiations referred to is as

manifestly absurd as to cite him on a question of eighth-century Arabico-Spanish etymology. Ameer Ali is welcome to adopt any "views" he pleases about the assassination of Conrad of Montferrat; but he need not call them "convincing proofs."

As to the minor criticisms, the Hasanain mosque is, of course, well known at Cairo, but we never heard it called "the Hussainièh." Násir-i-Khusrau, a Persian, made a slip, which his translator, of course, corrected in a note; no Arabic scholar could write such solecisms as al-Báb uz-Zawil or al-Báb ul-Khalij; and al-Misr ul-Káhira is as "perfectly incorrect" as would be al-Misr ul-Atika. There were mints in Syria, &c., before the monetary reform by 'Abd-al-Malik. The French editor of the *'Historiens des Croisades'* mistook al-Khuraiba for al-Kharruba, and therefore placed the latter south of the Kishon, where it could not possibly be; he also misprinted "Haifa" for Haifa, and Syed Ameer Ali enlarges both the misprint and the mistake. As for the confusion about the battle of Tiberias, one might just as well say that Waterloo was Quatre-bras. Most of our corrections Syed Ameer Ali wisely says nothing about.

THE WRIGHT COLLECTIONS.

MR. WILLIAM WRIGHT, of Paris, about equally well known to book-collectors and to sporting men of the two countries, has determined to sell his collection of autograph letters, his library, and his engraved and other portraits. In many respects this is the choicest collection of its kind which has come into the market within recent years, and it will occupy Messrs. Sotheby seven days in all, beginning on June 12th. Mr. Wright has apparently never experienced the luxury of self-denial in the matter of books, for, as he himself says, "price never frightened me" if any particular book was wanted. A glance through his catalogue will largely bear out this frank admission, for it contains many volumes for which the average collector would commit any number of sins. The three great attractions among the books are the extra-illustrated lives of Dickens, Kean, and Garrick. Few books of recent years have been more frequently grangerized than Forster's *'Life of Dickens'*, but no example of this species of book-making can be compared with Mr. Wright's. The three octavo volumes are inlaid and extended to twelve volumes folio, and comprise 119 autograph letters of Dickens himself, and nearly 400 others of contemporaries. There are 454 portraits of literary and other celebrities, 200 views of places connected with Dickens or his works, playbills, and a thousand and one other Dickensiana.

The copy of Hawkins's *'Life of Kean'* is extended from two octavo to eight folio volumes by the insertion of about 390 letters, 225 autograph letters, 200 rare playbills, caricatures, and so forth. Barry Cornwall's *'Life of Kean'* is also extensively extra-illustrated. Davies's *'Life of David Garrick'* is similarly extra-illustrated, and contains 360 rare portraits, 160 autograph letters, playbills, pamphlets, and a great variety of other matter. The collections and extra-illustrated books relating to the old pleasure gardens of London, theatres, and eminent actors and actresses are too long to be specially mentioned, but all appear to have been done with thoroughness. The works illustrated by George Cruikshank extend from lot 71 to lot 282, and form a series that has rarely been equalled. The Dickens lots are over 230 in number, and include, besides Forster's *'Life'* already mentioned, the original autograph MS. of *'The Battle of Life'*, one of the three MSS. of Dickens now in private hands. There are about eighty lots of works illustrated by T. Rowlandson; and nearly that number of Thackeray entries, including *'The Second Funeral of Napoleon'*, 1841.

But if Mr. Wright was successful as a book-collector, it is difficult to find an epithet which would fully describe him as a collector of autographs. These alone will occupy three days in selling, and extend from lot 1064 to lot 1525. The series of Garrick letters, sixty-four in all, and nearly every one of importance, is probably the finest since that extraordinary series of forty-eight unpublished letters of his came under the hammer at Puttick's on December 17th, 1849, nearly fifty years ago. Mr. Wright's series is to be offered as one lot at the reserve price of 400/-—a little over 6/- per letter—and if that sum be not reached they will then be offered separately. It would now be quite impossible to form another series of such great interest, and one cannot help expressing the hope that these letters may be secured en bloc for the club which bears Garrick's name.

The majority of the other letters are of actors and actresses of eminence in their day; but many are from literary celebrities. There are six from Boswell, of which two were written to Garrick; several are from Dickens; thirteen from Foote, mostly addressed to the Delavals; a number from Mrs. David Garrick; thirteen are from Samuel Johnson, and nearly the same number (most of them from the Kean sale of last season) from Edmund Kean; seventeen from Mrs. Siddons; and others are from George Steevens, Thackeray, Voltaire, and Horace Walpole, to mention only a very small number.

It is impossible to do more than indicate the richness of this collection of autograph letters, from nearly all of which the catalogue will give reasonably full extracts. Mr. Wright's aim has apparently been not merely to obtain a signed document of this or that celebrity, but to secure a characteristic letter important from its contents as well as interesting on account of its signature. In this respect he has undoubtedly been extraordinarily successful. W. R.

FIONA MACLEOD.

MESSRS. ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE & CO. have sent us for publication the following note, which has been addressed to them:—

DEAR SIRS.—I am much annoyed at this continued identification of myself with this or that man or woman of letters—in one or two instances with people whom I have never seen and do not even know by correspondence. For what seems to myself not only good, but imperative private reasons, I wish to preserve absolutely my privacy. It is not only that temperationally I shrink from and dislike the publicity of reputation, but that my very writing depends upon this privacy.

But in one respect, to satisfy those who will not be content to take or leave, to read or ignore my writings, I give you authority to say definitely that "Fiona Macleod" is not any of those with whom she has been "identified": that she writes only under the name of Fiona Macleod; that her name is her own; and that all the asks is the courtesy both of good breeding and common sense—a courtesy which is the right of all, and surely imperatively of a woman acting by and for herself.

Believe me sincerely yours,
FIONA MACLEOD.

MR. AUSTIN DOBSON'S WRITINGS.

In my *'Bibliography of Austin Dobson'*, which is now passing through the press, I am giving in every possible case the provenance of each piece. It has occurred to me that some of your readers may be able to tell me in what periodicals the following pieces appeared before being printed in volume form. I shall be extremely obliged to any correspondent who will assist me in this way. The following appeared in *'Proverbs in Porcelain'*, 1877: Apple Blossoms; Ars Victrix; Ballad à la Mode; Ballad of Beau Brocade; Before the Curtain; The Cap that Fits; Change, and Fair; The Cradle; Dora versus Rose; Emblemata Amoris; In the Belfry; The Metamorphosis; The Mosque of the Caliph. The following in the second edition of that book, 1878: Loyall Ballade of the Armada. The following appeared in *'At the*

Sign of the Lyre, 1885: The Distressed Poet; A Fairy Tale; A Familiar Epistle; A Garden Song; Household Art; L'Envoi ("About the ending of the Ramadan"); Little Blue Ribbons. And the following in the sixth edition of that book, 1889: A Broken Sword; The Climacteric. The following appeared in *'Poems on Several Occasions'*, 1895: A Greeting.

FRANCIS E. MURRAY.

Literary Gossip.

WE are requested to state that Mr. Sutherland Edwards, who is engaged on a life of the late Sir William White, will be much obliged to any one possessing letters to or from Sir William White who will forward them to him, addressed care of Messrs. Cassell & Co., with a view to publication.

MESSRS. LONGMAN will publish in the autumn *'The Life and Campaigns of Alexander Leslie, first Earl of Leven'*, by Mr. Sanford Terry, University Lecturer in History in the University of Aberdeen. The book deals in detail with the military aspect of the Civil War so far as Scotland and Leslie are concerned. The campaign of 1639, terminated by the pacification of Berwick; the invasion of England in 1640; the fight at Newburn and the occupation of Newcastle; Leven's campaign in Ireland, 1642; the second invasion of England in 1644; Marston Moor and the siege of York, followed by the siege and second occupation of Newcastle; the campaign of 1645-6; the king's imprisonment at Newcastle under Leven's guardianship; the second Civil War and Preston fight, 1648, are the chief events with which it deals.

MESSRS. LONGMAN intend also to issue *'Mr. Blackburne's Games at Chess'*, selected, annotated, and arranged by himself. The volume will be edited by Mr. Anderson Graham, who will supply a biographical sketch and a brief history of blindfold chess. It will contain about 400 games, representing not only Mr. Blackburne's match and tournament contests, but those wonderful exhibitions of blindfold and simultaneous play in which he is unrivalled, and many specimens of that end-play of which he is a master.

THE rejection by the House of Lords' Standing Committee, on Tuesday last, of part of the third clause of the Board of Education Bill, was brought about by the energetic action of those who are unwilling to give the central Department greater scope for the delegation of powers of local administration, and who maintain that no further powers should be delegated until the local authorities have been created. The action of the Department under clause 7 of the Science and Art Directory has made the advocates of a complete national system adverse to any additional delegation. It remains to be seen whether the Government will seek to restore the omitted words in the House of Commons.

THE inquiry promised by the Charity Commissioners into the recent dismissal of the entire staff of assistant masters at Grantham Grammar School is, it is expected, to be held on May 30th. Mr. Selby Bigge will conduct the inquiry on behalf of the Commissioners.

An interesting feature of the University Extension meeting at Oxford this year will be a course of lectures and discussions on the growth of Hellenic studies during the nineteenth century. Profs. Jebb, Sayce, and Percy and Ernest Gardner, and Mr. J. Wells have promised their assistance in this section.

MR. JOHN BURNET, Professor of Greek in the University of St. Andrews, has completed an edition of Aristotle's 'Ethics' for Messrs. Methuen. It contains a long introduction, and a commentary which is chiefly intended to show that most of the difficulties which have been raised disappear when the 'Ethics' are interpreted in the light of Aristotle's own rules of dialectic. A novel feature of the book is the printing of parallel passages from the Eudemian Ethics under the text to which they refer.

MR. E. BAKER writes from Birmingham: "I have just unearthed a very rare original 'Battle of Marathon,' by Mrs. Browning. As so few copies of this are known it may interest your readers to hear of this one, which contains an inscription in Mrs. Browning's handwriting as follows: 'A birthday offering from Elizabeth to her dear Trepasack, March 6th, 1820.' Trepasack was Mrs. Browning's elder sister. She in turn gave it to Emma Pearson (whose autograph it also bears), as follows: 'Emma Pearson, 1856'. She in turn gave it to Samuel Pearson, whose autograph it also bears, as follows: 'Samuel Pearson, M.A., 1864.' It has been in this family till last week, when I purchased it."

PROF. JEBB has accepted the invitation of the Council of Bedford College to become its Visitor, and will take the chair at the jubilee meeting.

THE REV. J. F. HOGAN, of St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, is going to adventure on 'A Life of Dante.' Messrs. Longman will publish it. The same firm have in the press 'A Memoir of the Episcopate of Acton Windeyer Sillitoe, First Bishop of New Westminster, 1879-1894,' by the Rev. Herbert H. Gowen, author of 'The Paradise of the Pacific.'

NEW buildings are to be erected at Jesmond in connexion with the old foundation of Newcastle Grammar School. This will be the third change in the site of the school buildings, the second having taken place less than thirty years ago.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"The 'Irish Anthology,' on the plan of Mr. Humphry Ward's 'Selections from the English Poets,' which Mr. T. W. Rolleston is editing for Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co., is expected to be ready in the autumn. Mr. Stopford Brooke is writing the introduction, and also a notice of Thomas Moore; Mr. Lionel Johnson deals with Mangan; and Mr. A. P. Graves writes on Sir Samuel Ferguson. Other contributors of critical notices are Prof. W. McNeile Dixon, Dr. George Sigerson, Dr. Douglas Hyde, D. J. O'Donoghue, W. B. Yeats, and George Russell ('A. E.')".

THE deaths are announced of Mrs. Emma Marshall, the well-known and amiable author of historical tales for girls, and of Mr. Cross, the historian of the French Church at Canterbury.

A NOTTINGHAM bookseller catalogues a complete set of the Kelmscott Press publications—fifty-two works in sixty-six volumes, and one trial sheet on vellum of the Froissart, which was commenced, but never finished—at 550/- "net cash."

This is about double the subscription price.

MR. R. EUSTACE writes:—

"I notice in your review of 'The Brotherhood of the Seven Kings,' by Mrs. L. T. Meade and myself, that you throw a doubt upon the feasibility of a goblet of fine glass being shattered by a note of music accordant with its own. May I be permitted to say that such is not only theoretically, but practically possible, and has been frequently done, the glass being thrown into such violent vibrations that the adhesion of the molecules can no longer stand the strain? I believe it is on record that Madame Patti herself broke a glass globe by her own voice in the same manner."

THE Deutsche Schriftsteller und Journalisten Congress will be held at Zurich from June 30th to July 3rd.

THE number of *Studentinnen* at the University of Bonn has risen from twenty-six during the past Semester to forty-three. Most of the women students devote themselves to the study of languages, archaeology, &c., and two (one German and one Russian young lady) have entered the medical faculty.

AN American scholar, Mr. Leo Wiener, Instructor in the Slavic Languages at Harvard University, has ventured upon an essay in an entirely new field. From the scattered repositories of Yiddish in this century he has collected examples of what seems to him a genuine literature, especially strong in poetry and the drama. The book ought to prove of interest to students of language, and it should besides throw light on some interesting sources of modern Russian letters, and should also embody valuable information for the discerning philanthropist. Mr. John C. Nimmo is the publisher.

THE CANTONAL COUNCIL OF UNTERWALDEN has resolved to purchase the ancient dwelling-house of Niklaus von der Flüe ("der selige Bruder Klaus") in Sachseln as a national historical monument, and preserve it at the cost of the State.

WE regret greatly to hear of the decease of our esteemed contributor M. Alfred Spont on the 2nd inst. at Amélie les Bains (Pyrénées Orientales). He was only in his thirty-sixth year. M. Spont was an old pupil of the École des Chartes, and had made a special study of English historical literature as the writer of the 'Bulletin Anglais' in the *Revue des Questions Historiques*. He had also been employed for many years past by the authorities of the Public Record Office in completing the great series of transcripts from the French archives which bear the name of its first compiler, M. Armand Baschet. But his strong point lay in his knowledge of the sources of French financial and naval history in the early part of the sixteenth century. His monograph on the famous (or infamous) Semblancay, and his essay on the making of the French marine, show true research, and were dissertations of great promise; but beyond this, the writer's frank and sunny nature and his unfailing courtesy and kindness to English workers will make his loss felt by many in this country. Besides his published work and contributions to journalism, he did much for the great edition of Froissart published by the Société de l'Histoire de France, edited for the Navy Records Society 'The War with France, 1512-13,' and had in many ways

largely assisted the Society by his researches in the French archives, more particularly for the volume about to be issued on 'The Blockade of Brest, 1803-5.'

WE hope to publish next week a letter from Sir Edward Maunde Thompson, Director and Principal Librarian of the British Museum, concerning 'New Light on Junius.'

THE Parliamentary Papers of the week include Education, England and Wales, General Report for 1898 for the Welsh Division (6d.), and Code of Regulations for Evening Continuation Schools, 1899 (4d.); Education, Scotland, Rules relating to Superannuation (2d.); Historical Manuscripts Commission, Report on the MSS. of the Duke of Buccleuch preserved at Montagu House, Vol. I. (2s. 7d.); Report on the MSS. of the Marquis of Ormonde preserved at the Castle, Kilkenny, Vol. II. (2s.); and Calendar of the MSS. of the Marquis of Salisbury preserved at Hatfield House, Part VII. (2s. 8d.). All three were noticed in last week's *Athenæum*.

SCIENCE

ORNITHOLOGICAL LITERATURE.

The Structure and Classification of Birds. By Frank E. Beddoe, F.R.S. (Longmans & Co.) —In this important work the present Prosector to the Zoological Society has carried out the plans contemplated by his predecessors in that office, the late Prof. Garrod and the late Mr. W. A. Forbes, both of whom left some material, to which Mr. Beddoe has greatly added. The first part consists of a general account of the structure of birds, but the author has purposely avoided elaborate descriptions of those anatomical facts which did not appear to be of great use in classification. The latter is the subject which occupies the greater part of the volume, and the author begins by expressing his decided opinion that all birds must be placed primarily in two great divisions, namely, Saururæ for *Archaeopteryx* and possibly *Laopteryx*, and Ornithuræ for all other species, living or extinct. Commencing with the Passeres, he proceeds to take into consideration the anatomy of each order and family—as indicating its relative position and affinities—down to the Struthionæ; the Saururæ, of course, coming last of all. Due mention is made of the important work done by Bronn, Dr. Gadow, and Prof. Fürbringer, while the work is profusely illustrated by diagrams taken by permission from the contributions made by the author, Huxley, Garrod, and others, to the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society*. The work, however, is of a highly technical character, and only to be understood by those conversant with the subject, so that our notice must necessarily be brief; for a discussion as to the proper position of a family which has "muscle formula AXY; bicaps slip present," might possibly appeal to athletes, but would hardly be intelligible to the majority of our readers.

In *A Sketch-book of British Birds* (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge) Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe has written the letterpress to some "little pictures which Messrs. A. F. and C. Lyndon have provided." These little pictures are printed in colours, and sometimes the rollers have slipped with disastrous results. The letterpress by the Assistant Keeper, Sub-Department of Vertebrata, British Museum, is far too good for the illustrations.

Wonders of the Bird World, by the same author (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.), contains the gist of the lectures which he has delivered

during the last ten years in many parts of the United Kingdom. No one can question Dr. Bowdler Sharpe's ability in treating such a subject from a popular standpoint, and the work can be thoroughly recommended to those who desire agreeably conveyed information on ornithology, combined with autobiographical reminiscences which may hereafter become valuable. It is impossible to speak so favourably of the illustrations.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—*May 4.*—Lord Lister, President, in the chair.—The list of candidates recommended for election into the Society was read.—The following papers were also read: ‘Photographic Researches on Phosphorescent Spectra,’ by Sir W. Crookes,—‘On the Chemical Classification of the Stars,’ by Sir Norman Lockyer,—‘Demonstration of Vermiform Nuclei in the Fertilized Embryo Sac of *Lilium martagon*,’ by Miss E. Sargent,—‘*Oryzopsis equina* (Willd.), a Horn-destroying Fungus,’ by Prof. Marshall Ward,—‘Impact with a Liquid Surface studied by the Aid of Instantaneous Photography,’ Paper II., by Prof. Worthington and Mr. R. C. Cole,—‘The External Features in the Development of *Lepidoptera paradoxa*, Fitz,’ by Mr. J. G. Kerr,—‘An Observation on Inheritance in Parthenogenesis,’ by Dr. E. Warren,—and ‘The Thermal Expansion of Pure Nickel and Cobalt,’ by Mr. A. E. Tutton.

GEOLOGICAL.—*April 26.*—Mr. W. Whitaker, President, in the chair.—Mr. H. Herman and Mr. F. B. Stephens were elected Fellows; Prof. E. Kayser, of Marburg, was elected a Foreign Member; and Prof. F. Lewinson-Lessing, of Dorpat, and Prof. R. Zeiller, of Paris, were elected Foreign Correspondents.—The President drew attention to the presentation by Dr. H. C. Sorby, past-President, of an autotype portrait of himself. He understood that the portrait was a reproduction of one which had been painted in commemoration of Dr. Sorby's long connexion (no less than fifty-two years) with the Sheffield Microscopical Society, as a member of its Council. He thanked Dr. Sorby on behalf of the Fellows, and expressed the pleasure which they felt at seeing him among them that evening.—The following communications were read: ‘On Limestone-Knolls in the Craven District of Yorkshire and Elsewhere,’ by Mr. J. E. Marr,—‘The Limestone-Knolls below Thorpe Fell, between Skipton and Grassington in Craven,’ by Mr. J. R. Dakyns,—and ‘On Three Species of Lamellibranchs from the Carboniferous Rocks of Great Britain,’ by Dr. Wheelton Hind.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—*May 4.*—Mr. J. T. Micklithwaite, V.P., in the chair.—Before opening the proceedings the Chairman referred to an accident in the shape of a bad fall, followed by slight concussion of the brain, which had temporarily deprived them of the presence of the President, but the latest news from Lady Dillon was that her husband was making satisfactory progress and able to leave his bed for some hours daily.—Mr. W. H. St. John Hope and Mr. G. E. Fox submitted a report on the excavations carried out on the site of the Romano-British city at Silchester in 1898. These excavations, Mr. Hope pointed out, had now been carried on systematically for the last nine years, and had resulted in the exploration of considerably more than half of the 100 acres within the walls. Operations in 1898 had been confined to the south-west corner of the city, where an area of eight acres had been dealt with. This had been found to contain two *insulae*, which have been numbered XIX. and XX., and a large triangular piece south of them, which appeared in part to have belonged to Insula XVIII., excavated in 1897. Insula XIX. presented the unusual feature of being completely enclosed by walls. It contained a small house and two other minor buildings, as well as a well-planned house of the largest size, built round a courtyard, and having attached to it what seemed to be the remains of a tannery. The winter rooms of the house were warmed by an interesting series of hypocausts. Beneath the courtyard were laid bare the traces of a still older house, the exceptional features of which were subsequently described by Mr. Fox. Insula XX. contained two small houses and a number of other buildings, but not of any particular interest or importance. The area south of the *insula* was singularly devoid of all traces of occupation, and seemed for the most part to have been open or waste ground. A certain number of wells and rubbish pits had been found in both *insulae*, but the various objects recovered from them and the trenches did not call for any special remark.—Mr. G. E. Fox then proceeded to describe the remains of the early house referred to as living in the courtyard of house No. 2, Insula XIX. The

interest in these remains, he said, consisted in the fact that they showed a building of half-timber construction. Such construction was not entirely unknown at Silchester, as indications of wooden partitions in masonry-built houses had been detected, but entire buildings of this kind had not as yet been found on the site. The house was of the corridor type, with its range of chambers on the western side. All the floors were laid with the usual red tile tesserae, except in one small room, and in the northernmost chamber, which had the remains of a finely enriched pavement. Mr. Fox mentioned, for purposes of comparison, instances of timber construction to be found in buildings at Darenth, in Kent, and in the City of London, and spoke of the internal details and arrangements of such buildings. He then described the mosaic pavement of the northernmost chamber. Though only part of this floor, he observed, remained, enough was left to make a restoration of its main features, and this restoration was shown by means of lantern-slides made for the purpose. He called attention to the fact that in design the pavement differed totally from the general run of Romano-British mosaics, in which variously disposed lines of braidwork form the most conspicuous portions. In this composition the noticeable features are delicate arabesques resembling friezes found among the wall paintings of Pompeii, and a huge scroll of black leafage on a white ground, strongly resembling the leaf borders to be seen on Greek painted vases dating about 300 B.C. The different flowers to be detected in conventionalized forms in the arabesques were next spoken of, and the materials detailed of which the tesserae used in the pavement were composed. These materials were derived either from brick or terra-cotta of different colours, or from natural rocks of this country, none being of foreign origin. The one marble employed was Purbeck, and this was freely used to produce a greenish grey, with excellent effect, while the white cubes of the general ground were of a common substance as the hardened chalk of Corfe. Mr. Fox concluded by remarking that both house and pavement, to judge more especially from the style of the latter, could scarcely be later in date than 80 or 90 A.D., and might be earlier, and in all probability the dwelling was the principal one of a straggling village beside a native British road. This village developed in the course of time into the town known by the name of Calleva Atrebatum.

ZOOLOGICAL.—*May 2.*—Prof. G. B. Howes in the chair.—Mr. Solater exhibited and made remarks upon a collection of mammals obtained by the administration of British Central Africa on the Nyasa-Tanganyika plateau in 1898.—Dr. C. I. Forsyth-Major exhibited specimens of *Prosimia rufipes* of Gray, a lemur from Madagascar, which had been erroneously identified with the female of *Lemur nigerrimus*, Solater, and stated that in *P. rufipes*, of which he had himself collected many specimens, the sexes were nearly similar.—Mr. G. A. Boulenier exhibited a fish (*Polypterus conicus*) from the Congo, remarkable for the retention of the right opercular gill. The left opercular gill was absent, but there was no indication that its absence was due to injury.—Mr. R. Lydekker exhibited and made remarks upon a pale-coloured reedbuck (*Cervicapra arunidinum*) from the Nyasa-Tanganyika plateau.—Communications were read: from Dr. Florentino Ameghino on the primitive type of the plesiodont molars of Mammals, the author endeavouring to show that this dentition did not originate in the gradual complication of the simple and conical primitive teeth of the Reptilia, but was the result of the fusion of the dental germs and embryos of several simple teeth,—by Mr. W. E. de Winton on the mammals collected by Mr. F. W. Styan, principally in the province of Sechuan: the collection contained specimens of twenty-two species, four of which (viz. *Chimarragale styanii*, *Soriculus hypsibius*, *Oricetus sinensis*, and *Lepus sechuenensis*) were made the types of new species and described in the paper,—by Mr. E. A. Smith on a collection of land-shells from British Central Africa presented to the British Museum by Sir H. Johnston: of the forty-four species represented in the collection and enumerated in the paper, twenty-four were found to be new to science,—and by Mr. A. Pease on the distribution of the Dorcas and Loder's gazelles in Algeria, in which he pointed out that the former species was not confined to the country immediately south of the Atlas range, but was to be found where suitable vegetation existed in almost all the districts of the Sahara. Mr. Pease had found it in the Mzab Desert, in the neighbourhood of Ouargla, and along with Loder's gazelle in the sand-dune country south and south-east of Ouargla, and here and there throughout the Oued Bhir. Mr. Pease had observed the rime (Loder's gazelle) only in the sand-deserts. The Dorcas gazelle was found in the Hoggar and in the neighbourhood of Ghadames along with the rime.—

Messrs. C. Davies Sherborn and B. B. Woodward communicated an additional note on the dates of publication of the ‘Encyclopédie Méthodique.’

CHEMICAL.—*May 4.*—Prof. Thorpe, President, in the chair.—A ballot for the election of Fellows was held, and 37 gentlemen were elected.—The following papers were read: ‘On the Combustion of Carbon Disulphide,’ by Messrs. H. B. Dixon and E. J. Russell,—‘The Action of Nitric Oxide on Nitrogen Peroxide,’ by Messrs. H. B. Dixon and J. D. Perkins,—‘On the Mode of Burning of Carbon,’ by Mr. H. B. Dixon,—‘Crystalline Glycollic Aldehyde,’ by Messrs. H. J. Horstman Fenton and H. Jackson,—‘On the Blue Salt of Fehling's Solution and other Cupro-Tartrates,’ by Messrs. Orme Masson and B. D. Steele,—‘The Preparation of Acid Phenolic Salts of Dibasic Acids,’ by Dr. S. B. Schryver,—‘The Maximum Pressure of Naphthalene Vapour,’ by Mr. R. W. Allen,—‘Scoparin,’ by Mr. A. G. Perkins,—‘On a New Compound of Arsenic and Tellurium,’ by Drs. E. C. Szarvassy and C. Messinger,—and ‘The Action of Hydrogen Peroxide on Secondary and Tertiary Aliphatic Amines,’ by Messrs. Wyndham R. Dunstan and E. Goulding.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—*May 8.*—The Duke of Northumberland, President, in the chair.—The following were elected Members: Mr. A. Cooper, Mr. A. W. Porter, Mr. S. Stephenson, and Mr. T. Uzielli.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Victoria Institute, 41.—‘The Physical and Mental Attributes of the Sexes,’ Mr. A. T. Schofield.
Surveyors' Institution, 8.—‘Land Purchase in Ireland,’ Mr. H. C. Anderson.
TUES. Royal Institution, 3.—‘Recent Advances in Geology,’ Lecture I., Prof. W. J. Sollas.
Statistical, 8.
Society of Arts, 8.—‘The Artistic Treatment of Picture Framing,’ Mr. W. Hunter, Londoner.
Zoological, 81.—‘On the Fauna of the Divers, Grobes, and Cormorants,’ Mr. E. M. Corner; ‘Notes on a Second Collection of Reptiles made in the Malay Peninsula and Siam, from November, 1898, to September, 1899, with a List of the Species recorded from those Countries,’ Mr. Stanley E. Hart, ‘Notes on the Ichthyology of Lake Tanganyika,’ Mr. G. A. Boulenier.
WED. United Service Institution, 31.—‘Modern Weapons and their Influence on Tactics,’ Capt. W. H. James.
Meteorological, 8.—‘The Mean Temperature of the Surface of the Sea around the British Isles,’ Mr. H. N. Dickson; ‘Some Phenomena connected with the Vertical Circulation of the Atmosphere,’ Major-General H. Schwab.
Microscopical, 73.—‘Exhibition of Pond Life.’
Society of Arts, 8.—‘The Law of Trade Marks,’ Mr. J. E. Evans, Jas. & Son.
Folk-lore, 8.—‘The Machinery of Folk-tales as exhibited in the Legends of the Punjab,’ Lieut.-Col. R. C. Temple.
THURS. Royal Institution, 3.—‘Embroidery,’ Lecture III., Mr. L. F. Day.
Royal, 41.—‘Illustration of Electrical Engineers, 8.—Discussion on ‘Electric Locomotives in Practice.’
Chemical, 8.—‘Cordaline, Part VI.,’ Dr. J. J. Dobbs and Mr. A. Lander; ‘Oxidation of Furfural by Hydrogen Peroxide,’ Messrs. C. F. Cross, R. J. Bevan, and T. Froebig.
Society of Antiquaries, 83.—‘Notes on the Metallography of Copper. The Art of Ancient Egypt as Illustrated by Amarna Manuscripts and the Primitive Processes surviving in Japan,’ Mr. W. Gowland.
Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts.—‘Lithography,’ Prof. A. Preller; Mr. H. H. Wilson.
ROYAL INSTITUTION, 9.—‘Basic and Organ Characters and Inscriptions in the British Isles,’ the Bishop of Bristol.
SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—‘The Music of India and the East,’ Mr. E. F. Jacques.

Science Gossipy.

We regret to notice the death, shortly before completing his sixtieth year, of Mr. Philip Thomas Main, of St. John's College, Cambridge. In the early part of his career Mr. Main seemed disposed to follow in the steps of his father, the Rev. Robert Main, who was for twenty-five years Chief Assistant at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, and afterwards for eighteen years Radcliffe Observer at Oxford, where he died in 1878. Mr. P. T. Main published ‘An Introduction to Plane Astronomy’ for University use in 1865, and also assisted his father in his large work on ‘Practical and Spherical Astronomy,’ which appeared in 1863. But subsequently he turned his chief attention to chemistry, and for many years held the post of superintendent of the laboratory at St. John's College.

THE decease is also announced, at an advanced age, of Mr. Benjamin Vincent, long the librarian of the Royal Institution. He was made an assistant secretary of the Institution over fifty years ago, on the recommendation of Faraday, who took a great interest in him. He superintended several editions of ‘Haydn's Dictionary of Dates.’

THE arrangements for celebrating at Cambridge the jubilee of Sir George Stokes's tenure of the Lucasian Professorship are nearly completed. The dates fixed for the celebration are June 1st and 2nd; on the former date the Rede Lecture will be delivered by Prof. Cornu, and there will

be a soirée in the Fitzwilliam Museum. On the morning of June 2nd the visitors, including representatives of universities and other learned bodies, will be received in the Senate House, and addresses will be presented. In the afternoon a commemorative medal will be presented to Sir George Stokes, and honorary degrees will be conferred. There will afterwards be a garden party at Pembroke College; and the celebration will conclude with a dinner in the evening. A large gathering of mathematicians and physicists is expected. Among those who will be present, either as representatives or invited guests, are Profs. Cornu, Darboux, Moissan, and Picard of Paris, Kohlrausch of Berlin, Quincke of Heidelberg, Voigt of Göttingen, Newcomb of Washington, Michelson of Chicago, Arrhenius and Mittag-Leffler of Stockholm, and van der Waals of Amsterdam; Lords Kelvin, Lister, and Rayleigh; Sir William Crookes, Sir E. Frankland, Sir A. Geikie, Sir J. D. Hooker, Sir W. Huggins, Dr. Salmon, and the Astronomer Royal. The date of the celebration unfortunately prevents many professors at German universities from attending.

THE recent appeal for funds on behalf of the library and the new chair of Public Health in Edinburgh University has been so well responded to that the joint committee are already able to advise the closing of the subscription.

MESSRS. LONGMAN are bringing out a new edition of the late Prof. Tyndall's 'Hours of Exercise in the Alps,' first published in May, 1871. The book has long been out of print in England. The present reprint is edited by Mrs. Tyndall, who has added an index. The slight verbal alterations made in the text were for the most part indicated by the author himself.

THE distinguished mathematician Prof. K. Immanuel Gerhardt has just died at Halle a. S. at the age of eighty-three. He was the author of a 'Geschichte der höhern Analysis' and of a 'Geschichte der Mathematik in Deutschland,' and, besides, editor of the mathematical and philosophical works of Leibniz.

FINE ARTS

Catalogue of Greek Coins in the Hunterian Collection, University of Glasgow. By George Macdonald. Vol. I. (Glasgow, MacLehose & Sons.)

THIS handsome volume will be received with much satisfaction and pleasure by those who are interested in Greek numismatics. It includes a description of the coins of Italy, Sicily, Macedon, Thrace, and Thessaly, about one-third of the series of Greek coins formed by Dr. William Hunter and bequeathed by him to the University of Glasgow. The whole consists of about thirty thousand coins and medals, of which twelve thousand are Greek, a like number Roman, and the rest Anglo-Saxon, English, &c.

Some time before his death in 1783 Hunter had formulated a scheme for the publication of his entire collection. The catalogue was to consist of six volumes. Of these the Greek portion was entrusted to his friend Charles Combe, an ardent numismatist, and the Anglo-Saxon series to the Rev. Richard Southgate, who had made a special study of that branch of numismatics. Combe alone accomplished his task, and in 1782 appeared his 'Descriptio Nummum Veterum,' &c., which contained a description of the Greek autonomous and regal coins. The work was well done, and was much praised by that great authority Eckhel; it was, however, only a catalogue, and there was no

attempt at a geographical classification, the towns being placed in their alphabetical order. Eckhel's first volume of the 'Doctrina,' which established the geographical arrangement, did not appear till ten years later. Hunter's death put a stop to all further progress in the catalogue, and since the transfer of the collection of coins to Glasgow, on account of difficulties of custody, it has been almost inaccessible to the ordinary student. Thirteen years ago Mr. James Stevenson proposed the issue of a new catalogue of the Greek coins in the collection, so that it should be made more available for study, and most generously undertook to bear the whole expense of its printing and publication. The difficulty in finding a competent person to carry out the work caused some delay; but at last Mr. George Macdonald, the Lecturer in Greek to the University, most liberally offered to do it as an honorary task; and seeing that he only began the catalogue in 1894, he has not lost any time, when it is considered that the whole collection had first to be rearranged from its alphabetical to a geographical order. It is scarcely necessary to say that Mr. Macdonald has performed his arduous task in a most lucid and scholarly manner. Taking advantage of recent publications, such as the British Museum coin catalogues and Mr. Head's 'Historia,' he has arranged the coins in chronological order in each geographical section; he has stated, where possible, the denomination of each coin; and throughout the work, either in the form of headings or foot-notes, he has supplied most valuable historical and numismatic notes, which will be of immense value to the student. In no better manner could he have carried out the wishes of the generous founder of the collection and the liberal donor of the catalogue.

It is not possible to enter into any details of the collection; but, throughout, each section is well represented, and it is remarkable that in such a short space of time—only thirteen years—one individual could have brought together such a complete series. Some sections are largely represented, notably those of Tarentum in Calabria, Sicily (especially the coinage of Syracuse), and the regal series of Macedon and Thrace. The rarities are not so numerous as one would have expected, and there is rather an absence of fine pieces. The thirty plates of illustrations are, we must confess, a little disappointing, and we fear in some cases justice has not been done to individual specimens. The fault does not appear to rest so much with the photographs as with the making of the casts from which the photographs are taken. These seem to have been rather unskillfully taken, and in consequence the sharpness of the coin-type is often lost. It is impossible to get a good photograph from an indifferent cast, and with a little more skill better results would have been obtained. We hope this blemish will be avoided in the two further volumes which are promised to complete this section of the collection.

The introduction contains some most interesting reading. It is not a numismatic commentary, but a history of the formation of the collection. The materials for this have been drawn from Hunter's correspondence, which he carefully preserved. He also kept a strict account of all moneys

expended, which is given in full, and records precisely what the collection cost him. For 30,000 coins and medals he paid nearly 23,000*l.*, a very high average price for those days. It is true he weeded out some of the duplicates, but the price which those realized is very small as compared with the sum total paid. It is evident from this correspondence that Hunter was not a numismatist in the full sense of the title. He was an admirer of these ancient landmarks of history, and was fully alive to their importance; but he was mainly dependent upon his friends and agents for the price he should pay and for determining the genuineness of the coins. He had agents in all parts where coins were likely to be procured, in France, Germany, and Italy; and he even enlisted into his service a member of the East India Company in order to procure coins from the Persian Gulf, "where," as he writes, "there is a fine opportunity of picking up the antient coins of the great emperors of the Medes, the Persians, the Parthians," &c. In buying large collections naturally there were mishaps, and now and then the results were disastrous. One notable instance occurred with Sir William Hamilton, the British Ambassador at Naples, who, though admitting that he knew but little about coins, purchased for Hunter a collection, chiefly of Roman large brass, which upon examination on its arrival proved almost worthless, many coins being false, and the larger number in such poor condition that Hunter would not put them into his cabinet. The collection was at once sold by public auction, and realized less than a quarter of the sum advanced for it. These accidents were, however, few, and Hunter was far too cautious a man to be easily taken in often in such a manner. His first great purchase was in 1770—the first year of his collecting, and of his Account—when he obtained the collection of Thomas Sadler, Deputy Clerk of the Pells. It consisted of Greek, Roman, and English coins, and the sum paid for it was 950*l.* The next two years saw him adding several collections from Italy; and in 1774 he writes, "My collection is now in such a state that I wish to procure finer specimens than to enlarge the number." However, the Account shows that he did not strictly carry out this resolution, as each year the number and extent of his purchases increased. He bought gold Ptolemies of Bruce, the Abyssinian traveller; in 1776 he persuaded his friend Matthew Duane to sell him his fine collection of ancient coins, for which 8,000*l.* was paid; and later on, though the name is not divulged, he appears to have been equally persuasive with the Earl of Sandwich, whose reputation as a scholar and antiquary was to be preferred to that as a statesman. In the meanwhile other collections came in from Germany and Italy, and in England Snelling, the dealer, and the best numismatist so far as British coins were concerned, was adding almost daily to the cabinet, and later on his place was taken by John White, who became notorious subsequently as a purveyor and manufacturer of forgeries. To what extent he may have imposed on Hunter we do not know; but then Charles Combe, his most faithful friend, was always near to advise, and competent to give a sound opinion. Hunter also received from time to time some valuable presenta-

George III., who was one of the greatest collectors of his time, and whose consort Hunter attended professionally, gave him an Athenian gold coin of such excessive rarity that Eckhel declined to believe it genuine. The East India Company presented him with twenty coins, probably mohurs; and Horace Walpole allowed Hunter to select any coins from his cabinet he might wish. It is easy now to see how Hunter was able to bring together such a collection in so short a time. He bought up pretty well everything that came into the market; he persuaded many of his friends to sell him their collections, and, as his rival collector, Francis Carter, said, "As everything sank into the Devonshire or Pembroke collection, all now do into Dr. Hunter's. God grant I may be able to keep mine from his clutches."

We are now well able, from Mr. Macdonald's catalogue, to form some opinion of the result of Hunter's efforts and to appreciate them. When the catalogue is finished we conclude that this portion of the collection will be available for study, and thus Hunter's chief wish will be accomplished. We hope, too, that means will be found to extend the catalogue to the remaining sections of the collection. The Roman series is sure to contain much of importance, and in the Anglo-Saxon and English sections we shall certainly look for many of those coins which were figured by Snelling in his numismatic works, but the whereabouts of which are not at present known. For the cataloguing of this latter section there should be no difficulty in finding a competent person, who may be induced to work in the same liberal spirit as Mr. Macdonald.

THE SALONS AT PARIS. (First Notice.)

BALZAC wrote in 1839 that the *ancien régime* had carried away the Salons, and that since 1830 the exhibitions of painting were nothing more than common bazaars. If a particle of his wit inhabited the heavy statue in plaster (3443, Société des Artistes Français) in which M. Falguière has figured him this year seated on a bench, with his hands crossed on his knees, in the attitude of a man who sees life pass before him in a mood of boredom rather than observation, and would fain give the impression that he is thinking of something deep, and fails in his quest—what would he say of the eight thousand statues, pictures, water-colours, and *objets d'art*, in the midst of which he is obliged to live for two months? Would the yearly increase of this show appear to him a sign of increased vitality, or a proof of the corruption of taste and the encroachment of democracy even on the reserved sphere of art? It would be very easy in face of such a display of mediocrity to give way to pessimism, and many writers on art have done so. But it is no good to complain, and better to look in the crowded salles for the few works in which an artist's soul has told his secret. Such things are to be found here and there in spite of the comments of the refined spirits who are condemned by the extreme delicacy of their taste to be perpetually dissatisfied and annoyed.

For instance, they have erased from the book of art, and declared unworthy of a glance from the aesthete, all the narrative pictures which aim at reviving historic episodes. In their eyes art is only a means of intimate delectation, a "mute poem," as Da Vinci said, an interpretation of the inner life. All that does not invite and excite "contemplation" and dreaming does

not count, is inferior work, idle imagery, good at best to amuse the crowd. When the crowd presses round a subject-picture, they move off with a smile of pity.

The "crowd," however, has its reasons, and enlightened and reasonable spirits ought to comprehend them. The Emperor Charlemagne, the great favourite of popular imagination in the Middle Ages, wished to see figured on the walls of his palaces of Aix and Engelheim, by the side of sacred history, the great deeds of profane history, and the people have always been interested in anecdotic reproductions of the past; they want to see events at which they were not present. Painting helps them to understand, and speaks to them at greater length and more clearly than books. And has not this craving to see been the origin for many a year of innumerable masterpieces? The miniatures of a Jehan Fouquet, the frescoes of a Benozzo Gozzoli or a Pinturicchio, the pictures of the "Life of St. Ursula" by a Carpaccio—what are they, in short, but exquisite and naive instances of popular imagery?

Nothing, then, is more unfair and more silly—the scornful ones are always a little silly—than this contempt for the inferior instincts of the soul of the people. Unfortunately in our time the painters, the "imagiers," are rare in whom the gift of calling up scenes, moral sympathy, simplicity, and the talent of mingling with the crowd in order to render its expressive gestures with life are equal to the essential demands of this narrative style of painting. For instance, Napoleon being still in fashion, we find this year, as in previous years, a large number of pictures devoted to his glory. They are all of them mediocre—sometimes loud, sometimes trivial—never popular in the best sense or true. The most successful is *Le Soir d'Iéna*, by M. François Flameng (A.F. 785), and here Napoleon, lighted up by a ray of sun, reclining in an atmosphere of triumphal flags waved above his head, looks more like a circus general in the transformation scene of a pantomime.

M. Boutet de Monvel exhibits *Jeanne d'Arc à Chinon* (221 S.N.), a set of mural paintings ordered for the basilica of Domrémy. He has chosen to adopt, if not the style of the miniaturists of the fifteenth century, at any rate an archaic manner, which by its systematic and artificial simplicity proves amusing in simple album water colours, but is certainly inadequate to fill a large decorative picture. The work, however, must be seen in its destined place; and perhaps in the church, subject to light modified by passing through glass, the biased style of M. B. de Monvel's work may be explained and justified. But for the present, and in the state in which it appears at the Salon, this picture, with its violent lighting—in which the strong reds, the greens, the yellows, the vermilions, are so crudely placed in flat tints without modelling—is more astounding and fatiguing than attractive, and amidst these colours the heads of the persons, all alike dim and pale, thinly and monotonously painted, hardly make any appearance at all. It resembles a pack of immense cards exhibited on the wall.

A Spanish painter, whose name I learn for the first time, M. Pla y Rubio (1572 A.F.), seems to have received from above that gift of natural and persuasive simplicity to which no artifices of workmanship can attain, and which, although no mere effort of will can counterfeit it, is a necessary feature in popular painting. He has chosen to show the effects of *La Guerre*. It is the sorrow of a humble village household, the return of a Spanish soldier wounded at Cuba. A shot has destroyed his sight; a bandage covers his eyes; he is leaning on the shoulder of a little daughter who guides him in the midst of a crowd of neighbours and friends. He is eager to get home, and he quickens his steps, but his hand feels gropingly the well-known walls that he will never see again. His mother runs to meet him, and suppresses the cry

of pain rising from her heart. In truth, such a subject is difficult to deal with, and often baffles execution; hateful sentimentalism and empty declamation seem to lie in wait for the artist, and threaten him at all points of his picture. Yet no one could discover the least hint of such things here. All in the piece, the gestures, the expressions are so truly observed, so just and sober, as to be particularly moving. Simple, unpretentious, entirely unaffected workmanship accompanies a facile touch equal to expressing the smallest hints of thought. Exquisite details there are in plenty: for instance, a figure of a small child who accompanies the soldier and carries his baggage, the half-hidden face of the young daughter who leads him, and that of the soldier himself, which reflects all the delicate shades of thought within with a spontaneity which amounts to illusion and the emotion of real life. But every bit of the picture is interesting; all the figures of the neighbours who escort the wounded man are hit off in the same natural way, admirable specimens of true observation. The quality of the execution is equally good, and in the openings of the clear spaces in the street, where the sun makes havoc of the cool half-tints of the foreground, there is a finesse which shows the eye of a well-equipped artist. M. Pla y Rubio takes henceforth, by the side of M. Sorolla y Bastida, who is responsible for a notable sea-piece (1832 A.F.), a foremost place in the young Spanish school, which seems at the dawn of a new renaissance.

M. Tattegrain possesses also the qualities which make a good popular "chronicler." He takes a naive interest in the stories he illustrates; somewhat of the soul of the miniaturists of the fifteenth century seems to live again in him. I will only make one objection to his picture *Saint-Quentin pris d'Assaut, l'Ecole* (1869 A.F.)—it is too big; but this is due to Salon conditions of sight. The size of a picture is enlarged to attract the attention so many rivals contest with it. Special premiums ought to be awarded to encourage small canvases, for the Salon, unless precautions are taken, will end by killing them outright. For his subject M. Tattegrain has drawn on the narrative written by a Spanish officer:

"After two days of murder, fire, and plundering, on the 29th of August, 1557, the remnant of the population were taken outside the ruined town, by order of Philip II., King of Spain.....Towards two (in the afternoon), the order was given that all the women should be sent off to France."

M. Tattegrain has chosen to picture the appearance of the Place de Saint-Quentin at this tragic hour, when, under the great clear sky where frightened birds fly scattered, and beat their wings in the rising smoke of the final conflagrations—driven on like a bellowing herd of oxen by the blows of the soldiers—the women marched between the prostrate corpses of their husbands or fathers, and the ripped-up walls of their ravaged homes. In the dolorous crowd that stirs and swarms up to the back of the square, some episodes are emphasized in the foreground, as it were, to sum up all the forms of misery in this groaning crowd: here a mother defends her daughter against the insults of a soldier; there a poor woman wavers exhausted, gives up, and sinks down on a heap of corpses; an old woman moves heavily and sadly, leaning on a stick. All are carried away by the relentless pressure, forced ever faster by the horsemen massed at the hindmost ranks.

ANDRÉ MICHEL.

A NEW REMBRANDT.

30, Egerton Crescent, S.W., May 8, 1899.

SINCE no one of high authority has been good enough to comment on Sir J. C. Robinson's discovery of a supposed early picture by Rembrandt, I would venture to take upon myself the task of pointing out the extreme improbability of the genuineness of the signature.

Of the painting, until the opportunity of examining it arises, no one else can safely speak.

Rembrandt was not entered as a student in the Faculty of Letters at the Leyden University until 1620, when he was fourteen. Orlers expressly states that it was not until he had been for some time an unwilling student there that he was permitted to enter the studio of Jacob van Swanenburgh; so that this cannot have taken place earlier than 1620. That he should by the following year have made such progress as to be allowed, even if he were able, to undertake a large picture five feet by four, crowded with various details, seems quite incredible.

Moreover, though the attempt to found a Guild of St. Luke at Leyden had failed in 1610, the fact that Rembrandt's apprenticeship with Van Swanenburgh lasted three years indicates that it was arranged according to the customary rules of those guilds, and one of the most vigorously enforced of these rules was that the pupil during his three years' service should on no account be allowed to sign any of his work. There were certain rare and carefully guarded exceptions permitted; but that one should have been made in favour of a boy of fifteen so early in his pupillage is to the highest degree improbable. The objection to the form of the signature, Van Ryn alone, must also have more weight than Sir J. C. Robinson is willing to allow it. Rembrandt, it is true, varied his signature largely and frequently, but there is, I believe, no other form; which occurs only once and if he began by signing Van Ryn, it is curious that he should have abandoned it so utterly for eleven years, not to resume it again till 1632, in which year he used it, but always in connexion with the monogram RHL, at least three times.

MALCOLM BELL.

NOTES FROM ROME.

In the year 28 B.C., from the 13th to the 15th of August, Augustus celebrated his triple triumph—Dalmatian, Actian, and Alexandrian. In the same year, and probably on the same occasion, a triumphal arch was raised to him, at the point where the Sacra Via of those days entered the Forum, viz., between the Temple of Castor and that of Julius Caesar. Dion Cassius calls it *ἀψις τροπαιόφρος ἐν τῷ Ρωμαῖα ἀγορᾷ*, and the Schol. Virgil, "arcus iuxta ædem divi Juli." This celebrated monument of the golden age of art, on the bas-reliefs of which the events of three wars, and the battle of Actium in particular, were represented, was discovered in or about 1546 by the workmen of the Fabbri di S. Pietro, and destroyed to the level of the foundations. The dedicatory inscription ('Corpus Inscr.', vol. vi. No. 872), engraved on a single marble slab 9 ft. long, was saved, for the time being, by the interference of Cardinal Alessandro Farnese. It must have perished a few years later in a limekiln, or in the workshop of the Reverenda Fabbri. The foundations of the arch, rediscovered in 1889, show that it had three openings like those of Severus and Constantine, the middle one being twice the width of those on the sides. I am glad to announce that, in consequence of the process of sorting and identifying every piece of marble scattered in the Forum and along the Sacra Via, several blocks belonging to the two middle piers of the arch have been replaced *in situ*. They are remarkable for their great size (one measures 3m. by 1·50 by 0·80) and for the beauty of their mouldings. The largest block had been split by the stonemasons of the *fabbri* in four sections, of which three have been rejoined together; one is still missing.

The same fate befell the Regia, the official residence of the Pontifex Maximus. It took thirty days to level it to the ground, and every vestige of it would have been obliterated had not the same Cardinal Alessandro come to the rescue. He saved what was left of the Fasti Consulares et Triumphales, together with a few fragments of the architectural decorations of the

building. The foundations of this graceful structure, discovered by Nichols and Jordan in 1866, and then buried again, have just been definitely laid bare. They are separated from the group of the Vestals by a narrow lane, which follows the course of the oldest Sacra Via. There is a well on this lane, the shaft of which, twenty-two feet deep, is lined with slabs of *peperino* with two lines of foot-holes. The shaft has been found full of votive offerings lying in chronological strata. The *Sacra stipes* begins with Roman pottery, such as was used by the poorer classes of citizens, including lamps, cups, plates, water-jugs, &c. Then follows a layer of objects of terra-cotta modelled by Greek artists, such as *arulae* with the relief of Thetis carrying the helmet of Achilles, *antefixa* with an exquisite figurine of Venus, weights, lamps, &c. The third layer is composed of Campanian black iridescent ware, the lowest of Italo-Greek or *buccaro* pottery. The importance of this discovery lies in the fact that, the pieces having been thrown into the well when entire and undamaged, there is the possibility of restoring them to their original shapes, not a fragment being missing. The best-preserved vase is a Campanian *oxybaphon* with white palmettes on a black ground. Behind the Regia, but at a lower level, a room has been discovered, which must be identified with the "Schola calatorum Pontificum et Flaminum." We knew already, from the evidence of Stephanus Winandus Pighius, an eyewitness, that a marble pedestal dedicated to Trajan, A.D. 101-102, by these officers of the supreme priesthood, was found in this neighbourhood while the Regia was being destroyed in 1546 ('Corpus Inscr.', vol. vi. No. 2184b). The newly found document consists of an architrave inscribed with the letters (*kalat*)ORES . PONTIFICVM . ET . FLAMINVM.

Another deposit of votive offerings has been discovered under and near the black stones. The most curious objects pertaining to it are Roman imitations of prehistoric stone weapons in the shape of *paaalstabs*. Here also another curious find must be registered. Along the course of the Cloaca Maxima there was a place called Doliola, the existence of which is certified by many authors, while as to its origin, scope, and meaning there are "tot capita, tot sententiae." Varro calls it "locus qui vocatur Doliola ad Cloacam Maximam ubi non licet despouere," where some *ossa cadaverum*, or some religious objects of the time of Numa Pompilius, were buried (v. 157). Placidus speaks of the sacred tokens to which the prosperity of the commonwealth was attached, concealed at the Doliola at the time of the Gaulish invasion. Livy, v. 40, gives fuller details. At the approach of the barbarians, B.C. 364, a consultation was held between the Flamen Quirinalis and the Vestals as to which relics they had better take away in their flight, which could be left behind in a hiding-place. These last were concealed in earthen jars, and buried near the house of the Flamen Quirinalis. The place of concealment is still held sacred, and it is forbidden to spit upon it. These words and these traditions have been recalled to our memory by the discovery of one or more *doliola* buried at a considerable depth not far from the black stones. There is no doubt that they must once have contained something valuable, because a pendant (of a necklace or earring) cut in onyx has been discovered in one of them. It is well, however, to remember that many topographers, Jordan included, place the *doliola* in the Forum Boarium.

From the point of view of excavations and archaeological discoveries the year 1899 will outdistance all the previous ones since the finding of the House of the Vestals. Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Phillips, who has made a present to the State of the houses occupying the site of the Basilica *Æmilia*, excavations have already begun on that famous spot. There are reasons to believe that they are

made now for the first time. Among the twenty or twenty-five thousand records of search for antiquities which I have collected for my 'Storia degli Scavi di Roma' (to be published shortly), only one concerns the site of the Basilica *Æmilia*, and it is not true. I have found it in Pirro Ligorio's Bodleian MSS., and it runs as follows:—

"There was another building [he says temple] between that of Antoninus and Faustina and the church of S. Adriano. From the remains which have been discovered in my lifetime, I argue it was of the Corinthian order, with columns 6 feet in diameter. I attribute these remains to the Temple of Mars the Avenger, built by Augustus in his Forum; and although excavations have been going on for years, there is still a great deal left for plunder."

I could easily prove that there is not a word of truth in Ligorio's account; that the site of the basilica was already built over in the latter part of the Cinquecento; that some clandestine excavations, made in 1877 in the cellars of the shop No. 9, Foro Romano, have revealed the fact that there are perfect mountains of exquisitely carved marbles lying buried under the houses so generously put at our disposal by Mr. Phillips; but in cases like this it is better to let the spade tell its own tale, and wait for events. I imagine that the pulling down of the houses and the removal of a mass of earth and rubbish some twenty-seven feet high will take the greater part of the summer, and that the archaeological strata will only be reached somewhere in September next.

Two events of artistic interest took place last week: the opening of the annual exhibition at the Villa Medici, a ceremony presided over by M. Leygues, Minister of Public Instruction in France, and honoured by the presence of the Queen; and the inauguration of the great Hall of the German Embassy at the Palazzo Caffarelli, the great frescoes of which, framed or inspired in a general outline by the Emperor William himself, have been executed by Prof. Hermann Prell. They are magnificent works of art in conception, colouring, and execution. I am told that in a recent letter to our gracious Queen the Emperor recommended the work of Prof. Prell to her special benevolence, because the mythological creations of the North are not yet enough understood in Italy to render their representation at once popular. However, the unveiling of the frescoes and the opening of the great Hall have proved a grand success.

The exhibition of the pupils of the French Academy contains several works of archaeological interest, among them the plan of the Island of *Æsculapius* and of the Circus of Maxentius in their present state, accompanied by a very clever reconstruction.

RODOLFO LANCIANI.

SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on Saturday last the collection of the late Sir John Fowler, comprising the following works.

Pictures by Old Masters: M. Hobbema, A Landscape, 9,557. J. B. Greuze, La Petit Mathématicien, 1,680. Flemish School: Portraits of Count and Countess de Bockhoven, 110.

Pictures of the modern English School: R. Ansdell, A Visit to the Alhambra, 157. R. P. Bonington, The Coast of Normandy, 1,785. A French Coast Scene, 315. François I. and Diana of Poitiers, 110. W. Collins, Sunday Morning, 1,449. J. Constable, Ploughing, 241. E. W. Cooke, Dutch Pincks on the Shore at Scheveningen, 294. D. Cox, Shrimpers, 315. T. Faed, The Cradle, 220. W. Holman Hunt, Morning Prayer, 220. Sir E. Landseer, Ptarmigan Hill, 2,100. A Highland Lassie herding Sheep, 630. Evening Scene in the Highlands, 330. J. Linnell, A View at Hampstead, Evening, 110. Sir J. E. Millais, The Order of Release, 525. W. Müller, The Slave Market, Cairo, 1,365. Gillingham on the

Medway, 1,575l. P. Nasmyth, A View in Sussex, 945l. J. Phillip, A Chat round the Brasero, 2,835l.; Dolores, 525l.; Adios, 194l. C. Stanfield, A Skirmish off Heligoland, 199l. J. M. W. Turner, Venice, the Dogana and Santa Maria della Salute, 8,610l.; A View of Oxford, 4,200l. Sir D. Wilkie, The Pedlar, 903l.

Drawings of the English School: E. Duncan, Worms Head, coast of Gower, 78l. C. Haag, Monks at their Devotions, 81l. D. Cox, The Hayfield, 1,312l.; Rhyl Sands, 241l.; Powis Castle, 966l. C. Fielding, Sussex Downs and Arundel Castle, 1,848l.; A Sea-piece, vessels in a squall, 315l. B. Foster, Stratford Lock, 420l.; A View in Surrey, 220l.; Seaweed Gatherers, 73l. A. D. Fripp, The Quarry Path, 63l. Sir J. Gilbert, Story of the Suit of Armour, 105l. F. Goodall, Sheik distributing Alms, 194l. W. Hunt, The Ballad-seller, 105l.; The Flowergirl, 136l.; Melon, Pineapple, Grapes, Plums, and Currants, 225l.; Plums and Grapes, 63l. Sir E. Landseer, Two Dogs and a Cat, 68l. J. Linnell, A Woody Landscape, 210l. Sir J. E. Millais, A Dream at Dawn, 430l. S. Prout, Ruins of the Forum at Rome, 199l.; An East Indian Ashore, 178l. J. B. Pyne, Coblenz, 115l. C. Stanfield, Morning after the Wreck, 147l. J. M. W. Turner, The Lake of Nemi, 3,150l.; Pallanza, Lago Maggiore, 630l.; Tivoli, the Temple of Jupiter, 1,785l.; Edinburgh, from the Waters of Leith, 1,050l.; The Simplon Pass, 304l.; Lucerne, from the walls, 1,365l.; Stamford, looking down the Market-place, 745l.; The Plains of Waterloo, 189l.; Moonlight on the Nile, 110l.; On the Thames, 210l. P. de Wint, Gleaners Disturbed, 577l.

Pictures of modern Continental schools: Rosa Bonheur, Highland Cattle and Sheep, 1,522l. J. Caraud, Louis XIV. and the Locksmith Gamain, 105l. E. Frère, The Pet Bird, 220l.; The Drummer Boy, 157l. J. L. Gérôme, Louis XIV. and Molière, 451l. J. Maris, The Ferry, 420l. J. L. E. Meissonier, The Smoker, 1,344l.

Drawings of the modern French School: Rosa Bonheur, Denizens of the Highlands, 735l. Henriette Browne, Sisters of Mercy, 168l. L. Gallait, The Prison Window, 68l. J. L. E. Meissonier, A Halberdier, 630l.

Some of the prices obtained at this sale were enormous and unprecedented, as well as difficult, if not impossible, to account for. High as was the general standard of the pictures, it has been equalled on many previous occasions when favourable circumstances seemed to ensure still greater results. The fact is the vagaries of the modern auction-room are beyond calculation.

Gérôme's 'Louis XIV. and Molière' is a capital piece of solid painting and humour: the king and the dramatist sit *vis-à-vis* at table, much to the disgust of the courtiers who stand round them. Meissonier's 'Smoker' was etched by the painter himself, and, with Mr. Dillon's pictures, was sold in 1869 for 399l. As to the Hobbema, a very fine thing of its kind, dated 1652, it belonged to R. Ford's family for four generations, and was at the Academy in 1872. Nothing like—that is to say, not half so much as—9,555l. was ever before paid for a work by this artist. The Duke of Hamilton's 'Landscape with a Mill' was sold in 1882 for 4,252l.; this is the highest recorded price for a Hobbema. The Greuze came from the San Donato and Demidoff Collections, and is a fairly good example.

There are various 'Hayfields' by David Cox, one of which fetched 2,950l. at Mr. Quilter's sale, while another, almost identical in size with that mentioned above, belonged to Mr. Heugh, and in 1860 realized only 162l. It was the former which was resold on Saturday for 1,312l. Mr. Vokins gave Cox 50 guineas for it, and Cox was so pleased that he gave Vokins another drawing in, much as the Dutch auctioneers of old used to stimulate tardy bidders by throwing in a Cuyp or two. The 'Hayfield' in question

here was remarkable for its admirable treatment of the light, its fresh warm colouring, and the effect of wind upon the reaped meadow. It was painted in 1850, shown by the Old Society in the same year, at Leeds in 1868, and at the Academy in 1873. 'Powis Castle' was sold in 1873 for 168l. The price obtained for Copley Fielding's 'Sussex Downs' is the highest we know of. A. D. Fripp's 'Quarry Path' of 1876, which fetched only 60 guineas, is a gem, and was sent by him to Paris in 1878, to the great delight of the French critics. 'The Ballad-seller' of W. Hunt is a good portrait of that master's daughter seated by a basket of flowers. It belonged to Mr. Bicknell, at whose sale it fetched 192l. Hunt's 'Flowergirl,' which has faded slightly, was shown at the Old Society in 1863; at Mr. Sichel's sale in 1865 367l. was given for it. It is still very fine. The 'Melon,' &c., of William Hunt is a most brilliant and solid instance of his most popular, but not his most artistic work. Linnell's 'Landscape' was sold in 1863 for 189l. Millais's 'Dream at Dawn,' which measures only 9½ in. by 6½ in., fetched a large price even for a Millais; it has not been sold before, and was at the Academy in 1869, at Guildhall in 1890. Turner's 'Lake of Nemi,' c. 1842, was immortalized by Willmore's exquisite engraving. Turner sold it to Mr. Windus; it was engraved in 'The Picturesque Tour.' Windus sold it to the 'Oxford Graduate,' and it excited Mr. Ruskin's warmest raptures in 'Modern Painters.' It was at the Academy in 1889. 'Pallanza' was sold to Mr. Agnew in 1865 for 467l. 'Tivoli,' the subject of Goodall's wonderful plate, is supremely fine; it belonged to Mr. Allnutt, at whose sale in 1863 it was sold to the Marquis of Bath for 1,890l. It was at the Guildhall in 1896. 'Edinburgh' was at the Academy in 1802, and again in 1889. 'Lucerne' was painted for Mr. Ruskin, and belonged, we think, to Mr. H. A. J. Munro, at whose sale it fetched 890l. 'Stamford,' 1829, which is slightly faded, was finely engraved by W. Miller in 'England and Wales.' It was at the Academy in 1889, and sold in 1861 for 189l. 'Moonlight on the Nile,' engraved in Moore's 'The Epicurean,' is a brilliant and delicate vignette, and belonged to H. A. J. Munro, at whose sale in 1878 it fetched 204l. 'On the Thames,' which was Mr. Gillott's, fetched in 1872, with his pictures, 472l.; it measures 9½ in. by 13½ in.

Among the modern foreign pictures Madame H. Browne's 'Sisters of Mercy' is a reduced version of a famous example. The 'Halberdier' of Meissonier is in water colour.

Bonington's 'Coast of Normandy' is a noteworthy example; his 'French Coast Scene' belonged to the Novar Collection. Probably no W. Collins ever fetched so much as the 'Sunday Morning,' which was engraved by F. R. Reynolds, and was at the Academy in 1836; it was sold to Creswick, R.A., in 1845 for 290l. with Mr. Knott's pictures, and again, in 1850, for 430l. Mr. Holman Hunt's pretty and characteristically bright and solid 'Morning Prayer,' 9½ in. by 7 in., represents a girl standing at her bedside, and has not been at an auction till now. Landseer's 'Ptarmigan Hill,' dogs surprising birds upon a rocky summit, was engraved by T. Landseer, at the Academy in 1869 and 1874, and at Paris in 1878. A 'Head of Old Brutus,' by Landseer, which fetched a small price on Saturday, is a capital portrait of a dog of great renown in the biography of Sir Edwin. 'The Order of Release,' by Millais, is the finished sketch for the famous picture. Müller's 'Slave Market, Cairo,' was at Manchester in 1857, and was sold with the Fallows Collection in 1868 for 1,344l.; with A. Levey's pictures it fetched in 1876 2,898l. Phillip's 'Chat round the Brasero' was at the Academy in 1866 and 1893, at Guildhall in 1894; it was sold in 1880 for 2,142l. With a great deal of animation it displays much bad drawing; it has been engraved. Turner's 'Venice,' R.A. 1844,

is a treasure less affected by time than most of its brilliant, fairy-like class. At Mr. Bullock's sale in 1870 it obtained 2,688l. The 'View of Oxford,' which John Pye engraved in perfection, belonged to Mr. J. Watts Russell, the engineer. Wilkie's 'Pedlar,' who displays his goods to cottagers, while the master of the house looks scornfully on and smokes, was painted in 1814, and sold to Dr. Matthew Baillie, the physician, who exchanged for it with Wilkie the famous 'Duncan Gray,' which includes a fine portrait of Mulready, the price being 320 guineas.

Last Monday Messrs. Puttick & Simpson sold a fine collection of coins and medals which belonged to Mr. Robert Harvey. Some good prices were realized, among them the following: Sultan Gold Medal for Egypt, 1801, 10l. 10s.; Clasp Chateaugiron, Peninsular War, 13l. 10s.; First and Second Jellalabad Medals, 10l. and 11l. 15s. respectively; Victoria Cross won at Delhi, 1857, 50l.; Gordon's Decoration in pewter, issued by him in Khartoum, 11l. 10s.; and Medal for Arctic Discovery, 1876, 10l. 10s.

Fine-Art Gossipy.

AN exhibition of water-colour drawings by Mr. A. Severn has been formed by the Fine-Art Society, to see which the public will be admitted on Monday next; the private view occurs to-day (Saturday). From the latter day until the 27th inst. the same firm exhibits in the same place a number of drawings by Lady Wenlock illustrating Indian aerial effects.—Messrs. Carfax have on view from to-day, at 17, Ryder Street, St. James's, some recent works by Mr. C. Conder.—The Home Arts and Industries Association's exhibition at the Albert Hall will remain open until the 15th inst.

THE Academicians have bought with the Chantrey Fund Mr. H. W. B. Davis's moonlit landscape, 'Approaching Night,' now No. 63 in Gallery I. at Burlington House, and Mr. W. Wyllie's 'Battle of the Nile,' No. 558 in Gallery VII.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"You will remember that a few years ago the Egyptian Government ordered every tourist to pay a tax for visiting the monuments, and the money which was thus collected amounted to about 2,500l. sterling per annum. Under the guidance of Sir W. Garstin excellent work has been done with this money, and doors have been provided for tombs, guardians of the temples have been appointed, and a good attempt has been made to preserve what the fortunes of time and war, not to mention the antiquity grubber, have spared of the great civilization of the ancient Egyptians. The common usage of parties of tourists going into the tombs and lighting fires, and thereby ruining the beautiful paintings and sculptures, was, we thought, stopped; but such is not the case. The newest offender in this respect is M. Loret, the Director of the Administration of Antiquities of Egypt. He has recently gone to Luxor, accompanied by his wife and child, and a lady and gentleman who are said to be his father-in-law and his mother-in-law. The party have taken up their abode in No. 6 of the Tombs of the Kings, and they have been there for weeks, while M. Loret's secretary, a Copt, together with his wife and family, are living in No. 11 of the Tombs of the Kings. It requires little imagination to perceive what an amount of damage must be done to the inscriptions near the ground, and to the paintings in other parts of the tombs, by people living and eating and sleeping and cooking among them. M. Loret may himself be careful, but everybody knows it is impossible to make the modern Egyptian so. In the interests of archaeology it is devoutly to be hoped that Sir W. Garstin will find fresh quarters for M. Loret and his party."

In mentioning Mr. Watts's picture last week we, by a slip of the pen, spoke of flowers instead of feathers.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

COVENT GARDEN.—Opening of the Opera Season.
QUEEN'S HALL.—Philharmonic Concert.
CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concert.
QUEEN'S HALL.—London Musical Festival.

THE opera season, under the direction of M. Maurice Grau, opened at Covent Garden on Monday evening. There are to be two special series of Wagner performances, the one commencing May 15th, the second, May 29th; 'Lohengrin,' however, was selected for the opening night. Herr Mottl was the conductor, and Frau Mottl impersonated Elsa. The entry of the hapless maiden in the first act is a crucial moment, and the lady's gestures appeared slightly exaggerated; a lack of spontaneity was, indeed, more or less observable throughout the evening. Frau Mottl is, however, an accomplished artist, and in the duet in the third act she was heard to great advantage. Madame Schumann-Heink was effective as Ortrud, though at times she appeared a stage rather than a real Ortrud. M. Jean de Reszke was admirable as Lohengrin; his narrative at the close was delivered with striking dignity. Mr. Bispham played Telramund with intelligence and ability; and Herr Muhlmann proved a vigorous Herald. There are good voices in the chorus, but the vocal display on this opening night was not altogether satisfactory. Herr Mottl in his conducting was unusually energetic; at times, indeed, he seemed to be the protagonist of the drama.

There were two novelties at the fourth Philharmonic Concert at the Queen's Hall last Thursday week. The first was Signor G. Martucci's Symphony in D^{m} , Op. 75. The composer is clear in his forms and skilful in his art of development; he has, too, genuine feeling for tone colour and contrasts. Towards the making of a masterpiece such qualities are of great importance, yet without inspired thematic material they cannot effect much. And that is just what we miss in this work. The opening *allegro* seems to us in every way the strongest section; the *allegretto*, which has borrowed charm, is refined, and comes next in our estimation. The symphony was well performed under the composer's direction, and particularly well received. The other novelty was by Dr. Stanford: Concert Variations on the old English melody "Down among the dead men," and such a characteristic tune might well tempt a composer. Dr. Stanford treats it skilfully, and at times humorously, while the part for pianoforte, admirably played by Mr. Leonard Borwick, is difficult and brilliant. The work is, in fact, a clever show piece for a pianist rather than a serious work of art calculated to increase the composer's high reputation. Madame Rosa Olitzka was the vocalist. The only instrumental works conducted by Sir A. C. Mackenzie were Mendelssohn's weak 'Meeresstille' Overture and the bright 'Olympic' Overture by Spontini, a composer whose music, however, is very much of the past.

Beethoven's Choral Symphony was the chief item in the programme at the Crystal Palace last Saturday. It was Mr. Manns's benefit, and he conducted the work for the twenty-seventh time. Sydenham is not

famous for its choral singing, but on this occasion the choir really deserved praise; it was at its very best. The solo vocalists were Madame Ella Russell, Miss Marian Mackenzie, and MM. Lloyd and Santley. The performance was marked by great intelligence, breadth, and feeling. We were glad to see a larger audience. The enthusiastic applause at the close of the symphony was fully deserved; Mr. Manns has never given a nobler reading of the three instrumental movements.

The London Musical Festival commenced at Queen's Hall on Monday afternoon. Mr. Newman has had plenty of experience, and knows, perhaps, better than any other manager how the musical pulse of the public beats. His programmes include standard works, also some novelties, while among his list of artists, vocal and instrumental, there are many eminent names. M. Lamoureux, the distinguished conductor, produces only two French novelties. We should have liked more. There are many living French composers whose works deserve a hearing quite as much as those of MM. Paul Dukas and C. Chevillard, the two chosen. And in French music M. Lamoureux is undoubtedly supreme. L'Abbé Perosi is represented by no fewer than three oratorios, and there is naturally much curiosity to hear the music of the much-talked-of priest. The quantity of music this week necessitates very brief mention of the festival programmes. At the opening concert Mr. Wood's renderings of the 'Pathétique,' also of the 'Götterdämmerung' March, were exceedingly fine. Lady Halle gave a highly artistic performance of Max Bruch's C^{m} minor Violin Concerto, and the perfect purity of her intonation deserves mention. Mr. Coleridge-Taylor's Orchestral Ballad was performed with great spirit. On Monday evening M. Lamoureux and his Paris orchestra made their first appearance. The rendering of Saint-Saëns's 'Le Rouet d'Omphale' was the *ne plus ultra* of finish and delicacy. The performance of Beethoven's Choral Symphony was excellent, and Mr. George Riseley had good reason to be proud of his Queen's Hall choir. Those who heard the symphony under Mr. Manns on Saturday could not, however, avoid making comparisons. Both conductors thoroughly understand the work, but the former seems to have a deeper insight into the music. Like a certain Mary, he has pondered deeply over its contents; M. Lamoureux, like a Martha, appears to be cumbered with careful conducting—in other words, inclined to make the letter at times more prominent than the spirit.

The concert on Tuesday afternoon included 'L'Apprenti Sorcier,' a "Scherzo d'après une ballade de Goethe" by M. Paul Dukas, a piece in which the French composer displays his virtuosity in orchestration, and one in which M. Lamoureux and his band worked wonders. It deserves repetition, if only for the sake of the scoring; the music *per se* appears of quite secondary interest; the manner quite eclipses the matter. M. Ysaye gave a magnificent rendering of the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto; his tone was rich and full, and his technique perfect. A Bach Suite by way of encore was performed in a manner as noble as it was neat. The programme included some 'Meistersinger' excerpts and the C^{m}

Symphony. In the evening M. Paderewski played two concertos: Beethoven in E^{s} flat, and Chopin in F minor. His reading of the first two movements of the Beethoven must have satisfied the most critical. There was no lack of charm and tenderness, but what specially delighted us was the virility and simplicity of the playing; for the Polish pianist sometimes weakens Beethoven's music through excess of sentiment. The finale was, of course, well played, but there was a jerkiness in the delivery of the bold theme which to some extent marred its effect. The Chopin Concerto also proved a success. The slow movement was given with exquisite charm; M. Paderewski, however, did not quite equal his last performance of the work in the same hall. The accompaniments to the concertos were finely rendered under Mr. Wood's direction. Mr. Elgar's expressive 'Lux Christi' Meditation, heard for the first time in London, was particularly well received. The long programme opened with Schubert's Unfinished Symphony. There was no fault to find with the performance, except the slow rate at which the *andante* was taken, for it is marked *con moto*.

"Ex uno discere omnes" will not apply to the oratorios of Dom Lorenzo Perosi. The weakest has been heard first; the strongest, 'The Resurrection of Christ,' is announced to be given last. The works have not, however, been presented as a study in evolution, and 'The Transfiguration of Christ,' performed on Wednesday afternoon, proved a trial of patience, and to many a sore disappointment. There are moments in the second part which show that the composer has a certain dramatic instinct, also that he has genuine musical feeling; but the writing is immature, the orchestration ineffective. The music is distinctly tedious, and, like Joseph's coat, of many colours. The style is now Bach, now Gounod, and occasionally Wagner; of Perosi proper there are but faint traces. 'The Transfiguration' is undoubtedly more suitable for the church than for the concert-room; yet even there the power would proceed from the Gospel narrative rather than from the music. Dom Perosi is probably not responsible for the fuss which has been made about him and about his oratorios. The cold reception given to his works in Germany was set down by his admirers to ignorance, or even malice. England may be termed the home of oratorio, and music set to Bible words is here sure to meet with respect and sympathy. We doubt, nevertheless, whether these new oratorios have come to stay. The later ones, 'The Resurrection of Lazarus' and 'The Resurrection of Christ,' though manifestly improvements, are very far short of being masterpieces. The performance of 'The Transfiguration' under Mr. George Riseley was not all that could be desired; but every one concerned must have found his or her task a trying one. The principal vocalists were MM. Gregory Hast, Andrew Black, and Robert Hilton. Mr. Percy Pitt officiated at the organ. Mr. Riseley showed afterwards, in Sir H. Parry's 'Blest Pair of Sirens,' how well he could make the choir sing. The programme concluded with Cowen's 'Ode to the Passions.' At the evening concert M. Ysaye gave a powerful and characteristic per-

formance of Beethoven's Violin Concerto, and his Bach encore was again remarkable for finish and breadth of style. A novelty, a *Fantaisie Symphonique*, by M. C. Chevillard, proved a well-written, well-scored composition; it was admirably performed under the composer's direction. M. Lamoureux gave a delightful rendering of Mozart's great Symphony in E flat. Miss Lillian Blauvelt was successful as the vocalist.

We are reluctantly compelled to omit notice of many important concerts. The London Festival, which has absorbed attention during the past week, has occupied nearly all the space at our disposal.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN.	Sunday Concert Society, 5.30 and 7, Queen's Hall.
MON.	French and English Combined Bands, 5, Queen's Hall.
	Herr Ludwig Strakosch's Vocal Recital, 8, St. James's Hall.
	Opera, "Tannhäuser," Covent Garden.
	M. A. Fransella's Chamber Concert, 8, Queen's Small Hall.
TUES.	Ribister Concert, 8, 20, St. James's Hall.
	M. Patti's Vocal Recital, 8, Queen's Hall.
	French and English Combined Bands, 5, Queen's Hall.
	Opera, "Tristan," 7.30, Covent Garden.
WED.	Handel Society Concert, 8.30, St. James's Hall.
	Edinburgh Chamber Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
	Mme. Vérité's Pianoforte Recital, 8, St. James's Hall.
	French and English Combined Bands, 5, Queen's Hall.
	Madame Grey-Burnand's Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
	Opera, "Cavalier Rusticans" and "Flagellants," 8, Covent Garden.
THURS.	St. James's Hall.
	Mme. May Owen's Vocal Recital, 8, Queen's Hall.
	Opera, "Die Walküre," 7.30, Covent Garden.
	Patti Concert, 8, Albert Hall.
	Philharmonic Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.

Drama

THE BLOODY BROTHER.

27, Taney Road, Hampshire, May 4, 1899.

A MISPRINT in Fletcher's "Bloody Brother," IV. ii., seems to have hitherto escaped the notice of editors. The scene represents a party of astrologers casting the nativity of Rollo, Duke of Normandy, one of whom says:—

He's lord of the geniture
Whether you examine it by Ptolemy's way,
Or Messahalah's, Lael, or Alkindus.

There is no astrological writer named Lael, but Zael (Sahl ibn Bishr) is, with Messahalah and Alkindus, one of the "novem judices de judiciis astrorum" whose works were printed together at Venice in 1517, and the dramatist probably had the volume before him. Although the astrologers themselves are represented as knaves, the astrology of the scene is minutely accurate. The figure is supposed to be drawn for the latitude of 49° 10', which is almost exactly that of Rouen, where the duke's birth would have taken place. The longitude is given for 21°, which nearly corresponds with the meridian of Königsberg, thus proving that the astrologer used the tables of Regiomontanus, a gross anachronism for an artist of the eleventh century, but one which would be disregarded by a dramatist of the seventeenth.

There seems to be a misprint in another passage:—

Much of Scorpio,
Then Mars his gaudium, rising in the ascendant.

We should probably read That's. Dyce further obscures the sense by putting a semicolon instead of a comma after "Scorpio."

These circumstances may throw light upon the identity of Fletcher's anonymous collaborator. All critics agree that this scene and some others are not by Fletcher, the versification being quite different from his characteristic type. Unless the writer of this scene was carefully coached by some expert, he was a man of learning and well versed in astrology. Such a person must be sought for among the dramatists of the day.

R. GARNETT.

Dramatic Gossip.

ATTEMPTS to adapt "Carnac Sahib" to the tastes of the frequenters of Her Majesty's have been unavailing, and the piece is this evening

succeeded by "The First Night" and "Capt. Swift." In the latter piece Mr. Tree will be Capt. Swift; Mrs. Tree will reappear as Stella Darbisher, and Mr. Macklin as Gardiner. Mr. Franklin MacLeay and Mr. Cecil Raleigh will also appear.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN'S management of the Criterion will begin with "The Girl from Maxim's," a translation from M. Feydeau. Mr. Seymour Hicks will be included in the cast.

MR. NORMAN FORBES will quit on the 20th inst. his management of the Adelphi, and take on tour his adaptation "The Man in the Iron Mask."

In the afternoon programme at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon was Miss Estelle Burney's one-act piece "The Ordeal of the Honeymoon," which was supported by Mr. Cyril Maude and Miss Winifred Emery.

"WHEELS WITHIN WHEELS" is the title of the new comedy by Mr. R. C. Carton which will be produced on Saturday next at the Court. Mrs. Compton, Miss Lena Ashwell, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Thalberg, and Mr. Eric Lewis will have parts in it.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL has been playing during the past week at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, in "Magda" and "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray."

"CHANGE ALLEY" has been withdrawn from the Garrick Theatre, and the house, which was closed on Monday and Tuesday, reopened on Wednesday with "A Court Scandal," given with the original cast, except as regards Mr. Allan Aynesworth, the state of whose health causes uneasiness.

AFTER having been refused at the Théâtre Français and the Gymnase, "Ma Bru," a three-act comedy of M. Fabrice Carré and M. Paul Bilhaut, has obtained a success at the Odéon.

The death, in his seventieth year, is announced of M. Edouard Montagne, the author of several pieces produced at the Opéra Comique, the Ambigu, and the Palais Royal.

Tourists in Switzerland this year will have three opportunities of witnessing the characteristic national performances of "Wilhelm Tell" upon a large scale—at Brugg in Canton Aargau, at Altdorf in Canton Uri, and at Hochdorf in Canton Lucerne. That at Brugg will be after the old fashion, upon a stage in the open air, by local amateur performers. Those at Altdorf and Hochdorf will be of a more ambitious and elaborate character. A huge wooden temporary playhouse is being erected at the former place, a few minutes' distance from the railway station on the St. Gotthard line, under the direction of Herr Thies, the manager of the Lucerne Theatre.

MISCELLANEA

JUVENAL, SAT. VI.—In the new fragment of Juvenal's Sixth Satire published in this month's Classical Review the following emendations should be made.

Lines 1–3 should read:—

In quaquam domo vivit luditque professus
Obscenum, tremula promittit et omnia dextra,
Invenies omnis turpes similesque cinetis.

Quacunque is relative, as usual.

Lines 12, 13:—

Para ultima ludi!
Accipit has animas aliquae in carcere nervis.

Nervis is nominative singular.

Line 27:—

Quem rideat? alii hunc minum!

A. E. HOUSMAN.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—E. T. O.—L. H. M.—W. J. H.—Received.

J. V.—L. L.—We cannot, we regret to say, undertake to answer such questions.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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